



US010520998B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Hundal et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 10,520,998 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** ***Dec. 31, 2019**

(54) **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MANAGING USB POWER DELIVERY**

(71) Applicant: **Icron Technologies Corporation**,
Burnaby (CA)
(72) Inventors: **Sukhdeep Singh Hundal**, Surrey (CA);
Thomas Aaron Schultz, Langley (CA);
Ardeshir Saghafi, Surrey (CA)

(73) Assignee: **Icron Technologies Corporation**,
Burnaby (CA)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 12 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: **15/641,102**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 3, 2017**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2017/0300099 A1 Oct. 19, 2017

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 15/004,382, filed on Jan. 22, 2016, now Pat. No. 9,727,109.
(Continued)

(51) **Int. Cl.**

G06F 1/26 (2006.01)

G06F 13/40 (2006.01)

G06F 13/42 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **G06F 1/266** (2013.01); **G06F 13/4068** (2013.01); **G06F 13/4282** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC ... G06F 1/266; G06F 13/4068; G06F 13/4282
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,799,196 A * 8/1998 Flannery G06F 1/26
713/320

6,381,666 B1 4/2002 Kejser et al.
(Continued)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“AdderLink C-USB: USB Extender,” © 2014 Adder Technology, Ltd., Cambridge, U.K., 2 page-brochure.

(Continued)

Primary Examiner — Jaweed A Abbaszadeh

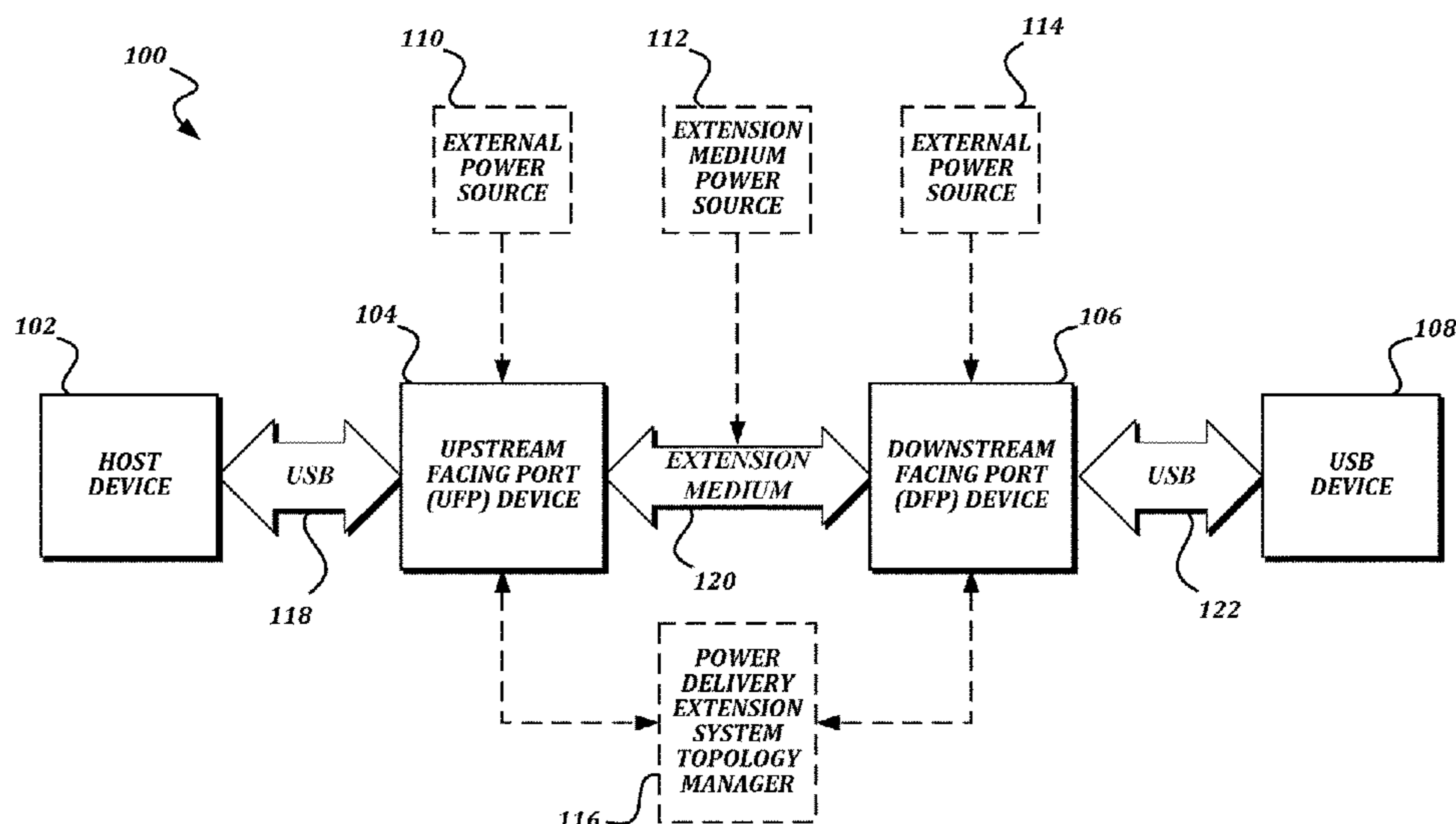
Assistant Examiner — Brian J Corcoran

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Christensen O’Connor Johnson Kindness PLLC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Embodiments of the present disclosure provide systems and/or methods for managing power distribution over a USB topology. In some embodiments, a host device is coupled to an upstream facing port device (UFP device) via a USB compliant connection, and a USB device is coupled to a downstream facing port device (DFP device) via a USB compliant connection. The UFP device and DFP device are connected via a non-USB compliant extension medium. In various embodiments, the UFP device and DFP device may be individually powered by different types of sources (such as external power sources, power distributed over the extension medium, batteries, USB bus power, and/or the like). The UFP device and DFP device cooperate to provide USB power distribution functionality throughout the USB topology despite the presence of the non-USB compliant extension medium.

19 Claims, 14 Drawing Sheets



Related U.S. Application Data

2015/0331464 A1 11/2015 Balasubramanian et al.
 2015/0331821 A1 11/2015 Liston et al.
 2016/0231777 A1 8/2016 DeCamp

(60) Provisional application No. 62/107,253, filed on Jan. 23, 2015.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

7,149,833	B2	12/2006	McLeod	
7,149,835	B2	12/2006	Engler	
7,334,072	B1	2/2008	Wright	
7,502,878	B1	3/2009	Wright	
7,908,414	B2	3/2011	Combs et al.	
8,504,707	B2	8/2013	Toebs et al.	
8,788,734	B2	7/2014	Sosniak	
8,868,792	B2	10/2014	Schultz et al.	
8,909,951	B2	12/2014	Lin et al.	
9,047,418	B2	6/2015	Hall	
9,129,064	B2	9/2015	Toivanen et al.	
9,760,517	B2*	9/2017	Liston	G06F 13/387
2004/0186926	A1	9/2004	Rapaich	
2005/0027889	A1	2/2005	Sandulescu	
2008/0005395	A1	1/2008	Ong et al.	
2008/0143185	A1	6/2008	Ingles	
2009/0158377	A1	6/2009	Diab et al.	
2011/0119506	A1	5/2011	Tsai	
2013/0086284	A1	4/2013	Shaver et al.	
2014/0139018	A1	5/2014	Saunders et al.	
2014/0181325	A1	6/2014	Hundal et al.	
2014/0208134	A1	7/2014	Waters et al.	
2015/0160705	A1	6/2015	Chen	

“Black Box Network Services: 2-Port CAT5 USB 2.0 Extender With Local Power,” Manual IC402A, Black Box Corporation, Lawrence, Pa., Jun. 2010, 20 pages.
 International Search Report and Written Opinion dated Mar. 11, 2016, issued in corresponding International Application No. PCT/CA2016/050050, filed Jan. 22, 2016, 6 pages.
 “Universal Serial Bus 3.1 Specification,” Revision 1.0, Jul. 26, 2013, Hewlett-Packard Company, Intel Corporation, Microsoft Corporation, Renesas Corporation, ST-Ericsson, and Texas Instruments, 631 pages.
 “Universal Serial Bus Power Delivery Specification,” Revision 2.0, V1.1, May 7, 2015, Hewlett-Packard Company, Intel Corporation, LSI Corporation, Microsoft Corporation, Renesas, ST-Microelectronics, and Texas Instruments, 544 pages.
 “Universal Serial Bus Type-C Cable and Connector Specification,” Revision 1.1, Apr. 3, 2015, USB 3.0 Promoter Group, 180 pages.
 “USB 2.0 Extender Over Cat5e/6,” User’s Manual, © 2013, Hall Research, Inc., Tustin, Calif., <<http://www.hallresearch.com/page/U2-160>> [retrieved Nov. 19, 2016], 8 pages.
 Extended European Search Report dated Jan. 5, 2018, issued in corresponding European Application No. 16739710.8, filed Jan. 22, 2016, 6 pages.
 Office Action dated May 2, 2018, issued in corresponding Canadian Application No. 2,970,979, filed Jan. 22, 2016, 3 pages.

* cited by examiner

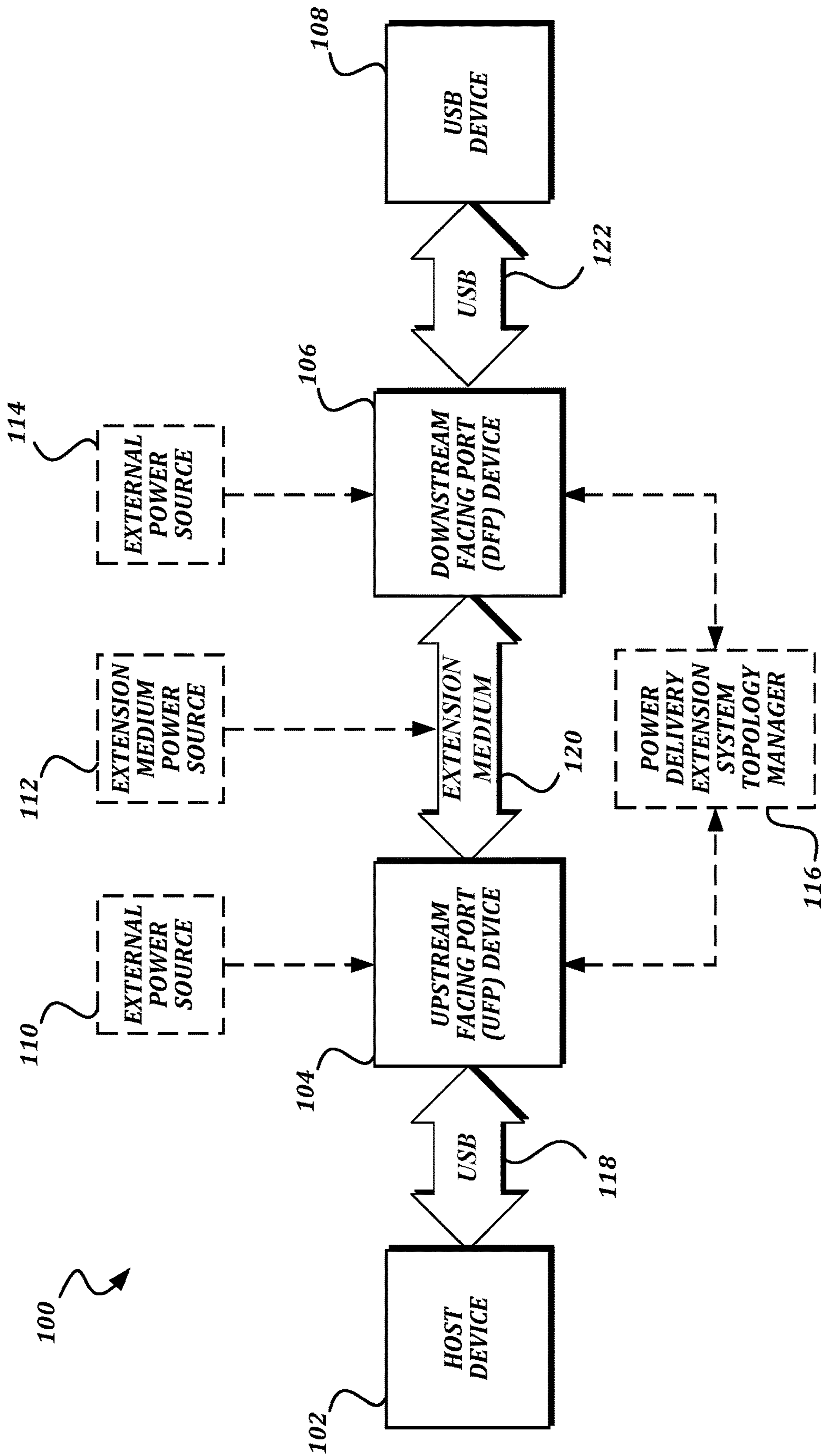


FIG. 1

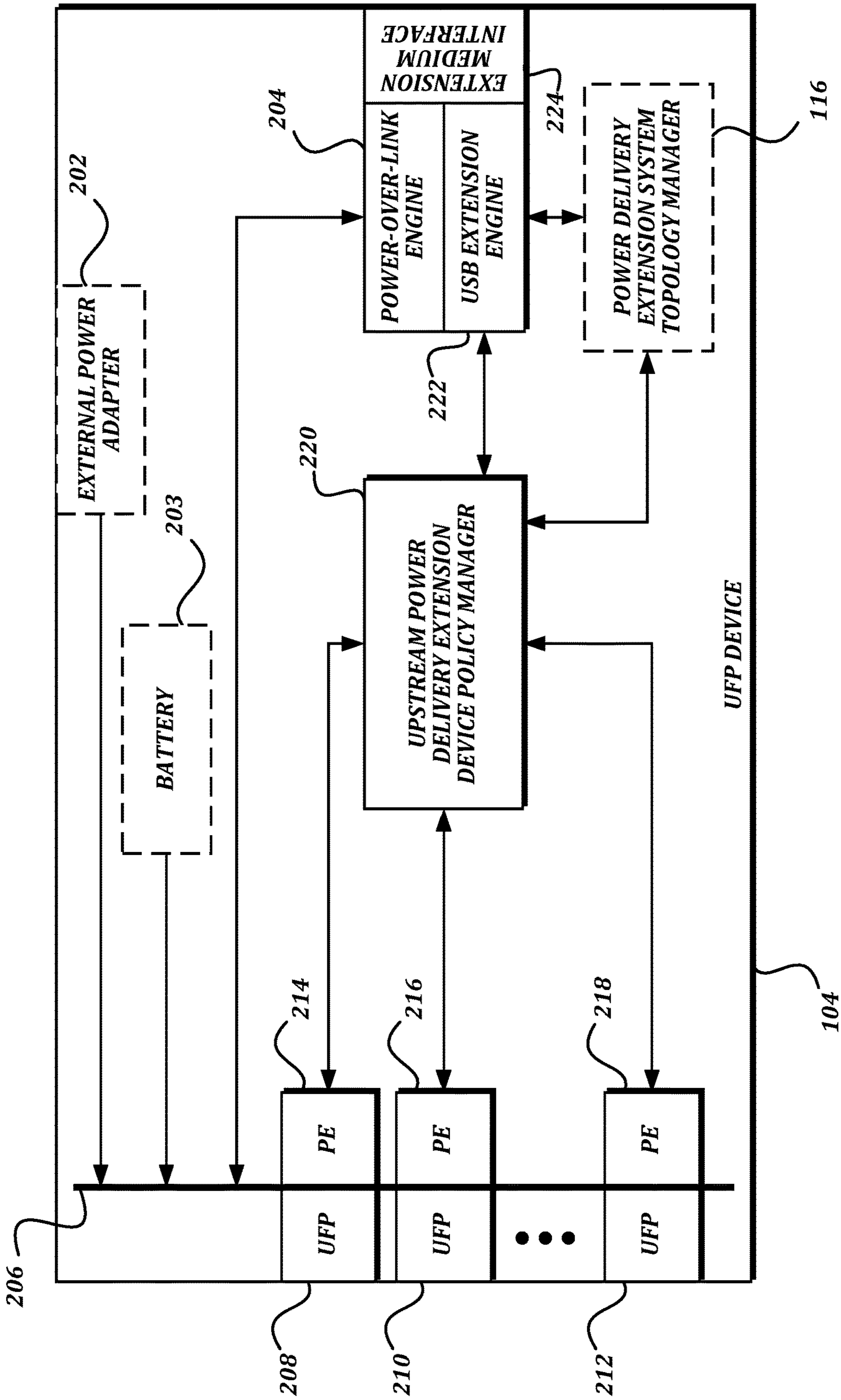


FIG. 2

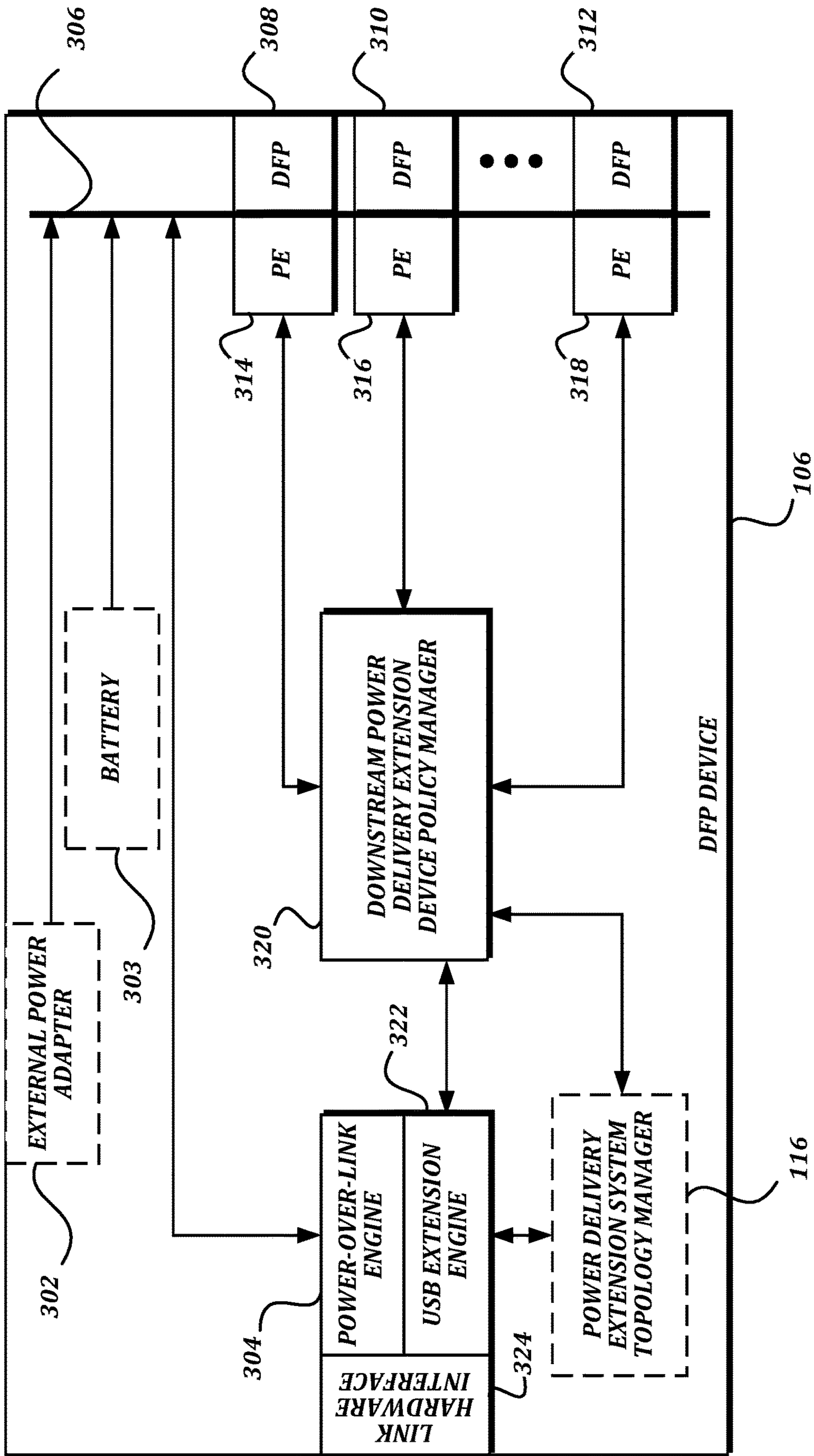


FIG. 3

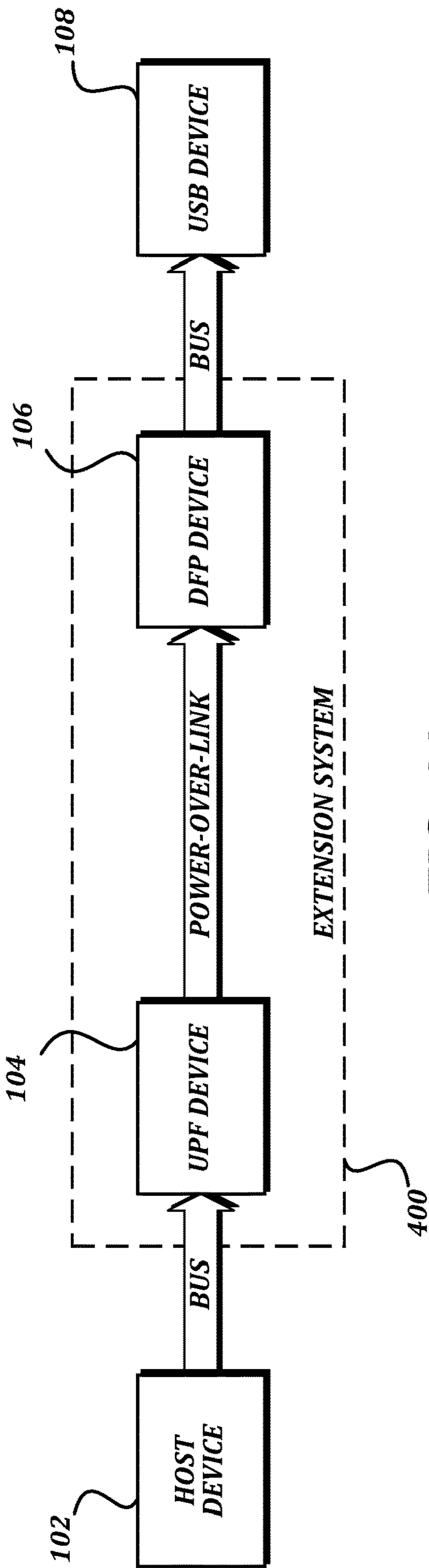


FIG. 4A

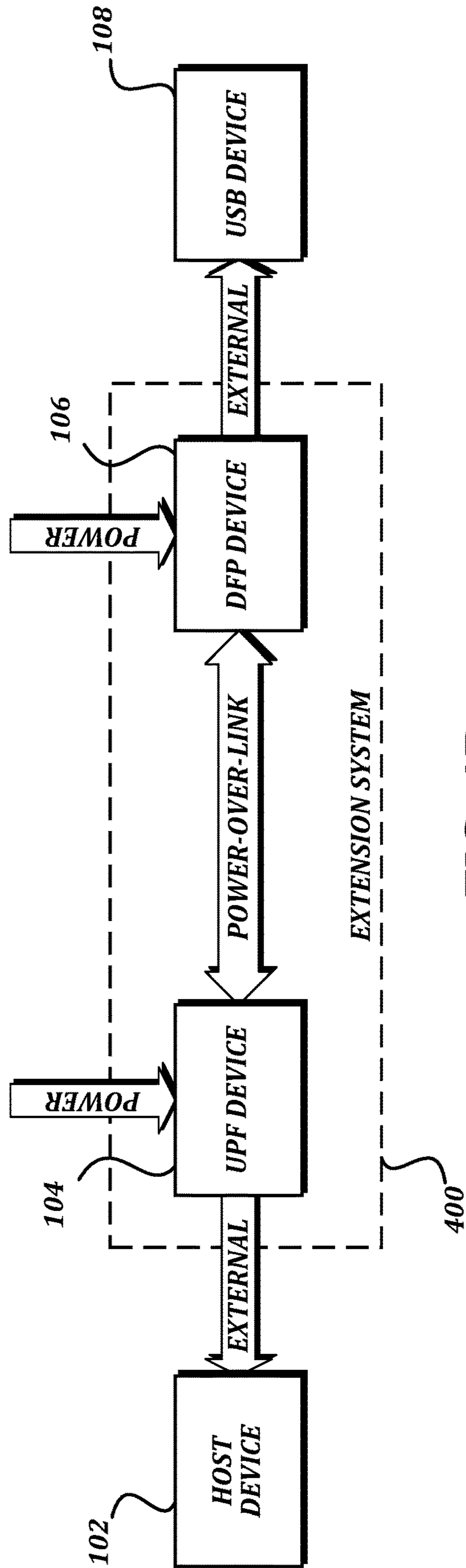


FIG. 4B

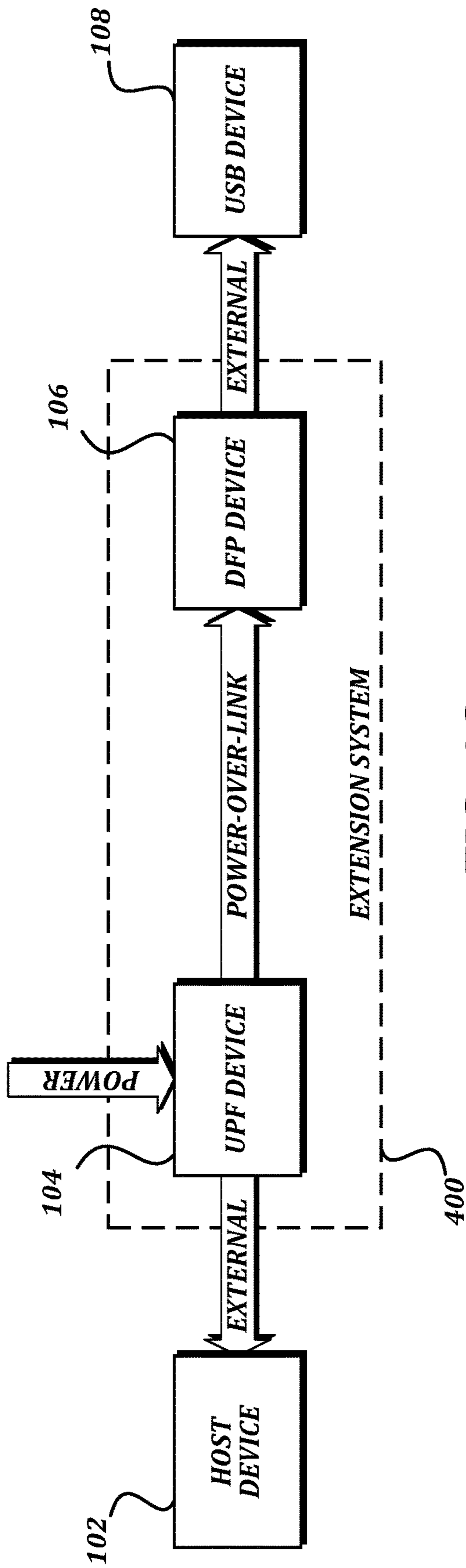


FIG. 4C

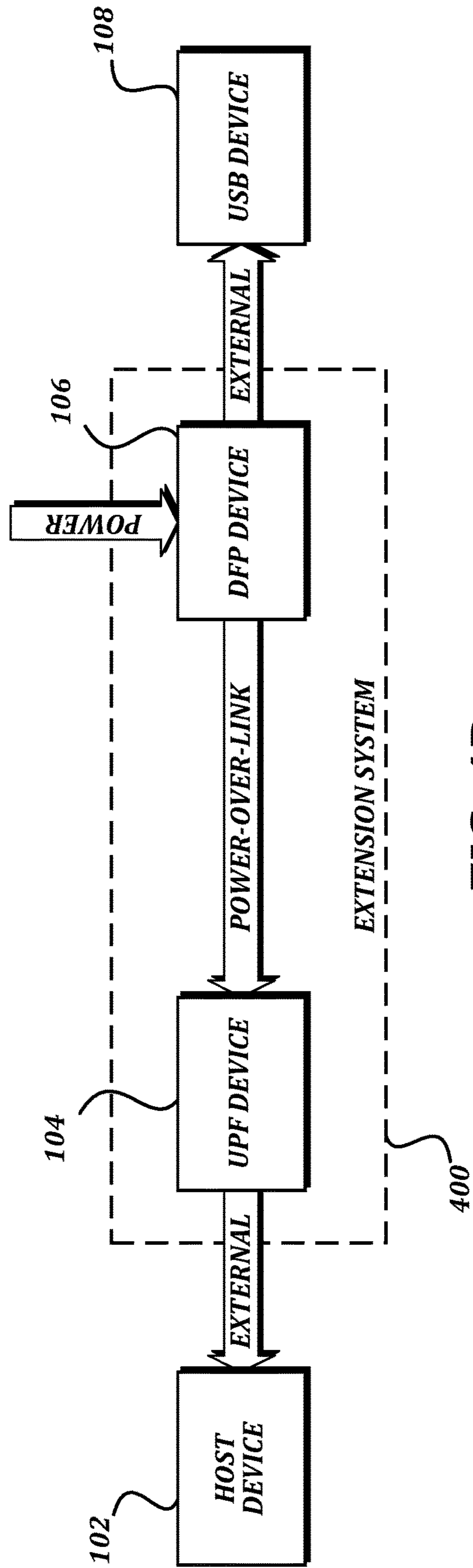


FIG. 4D

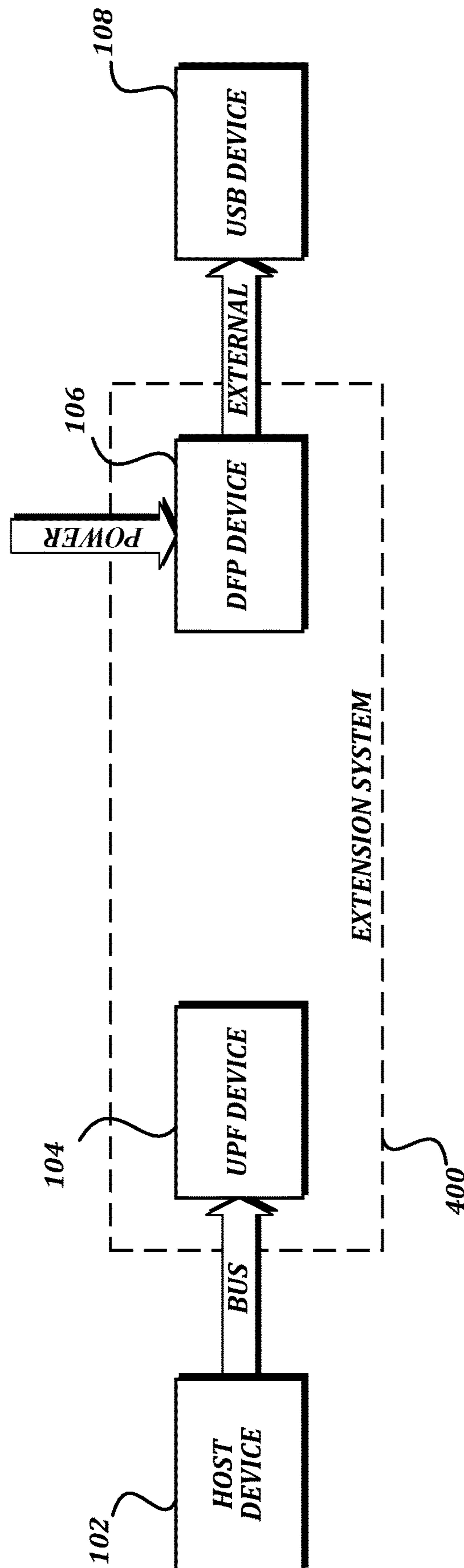


FIG. 4E

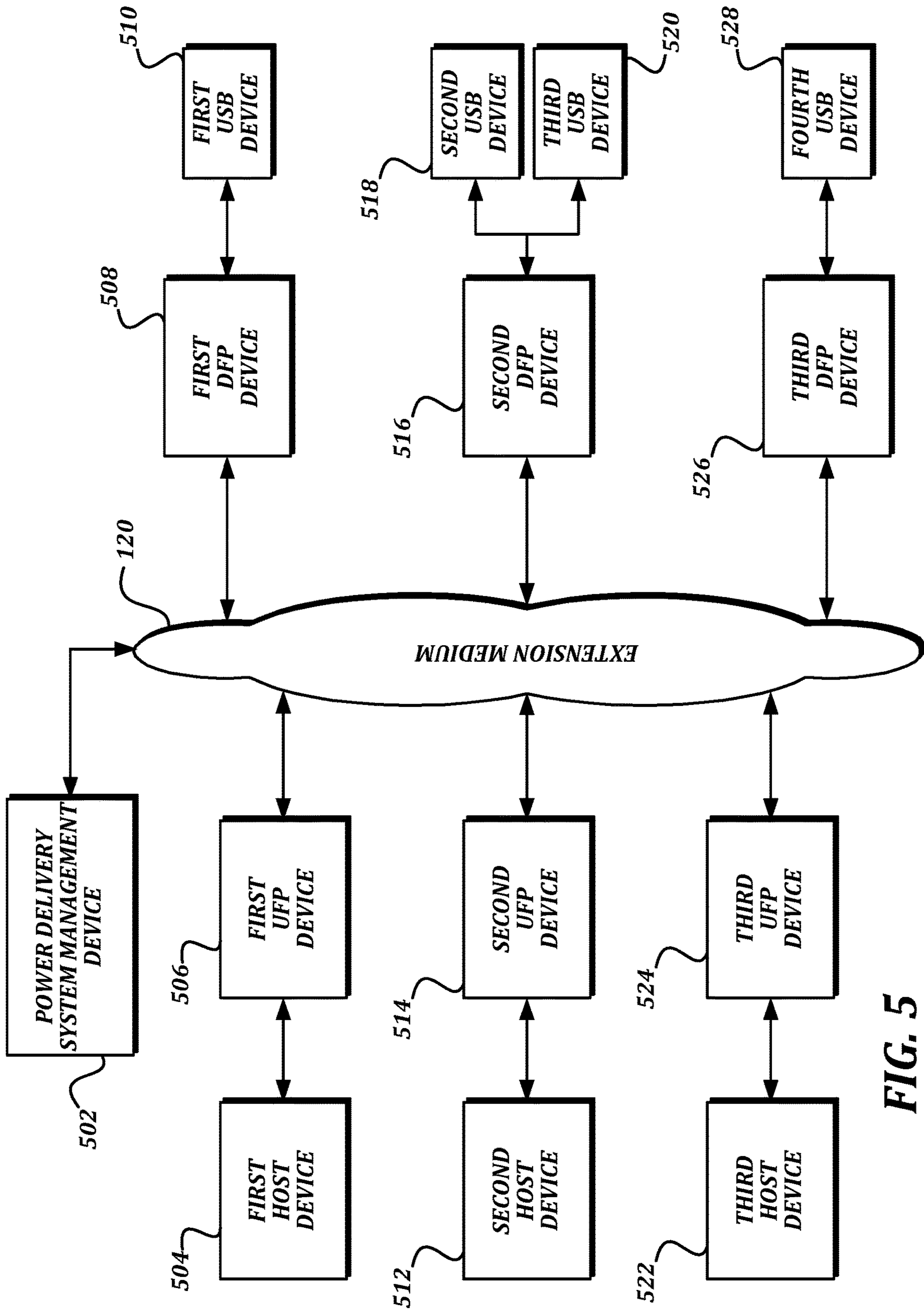


FIG. 5

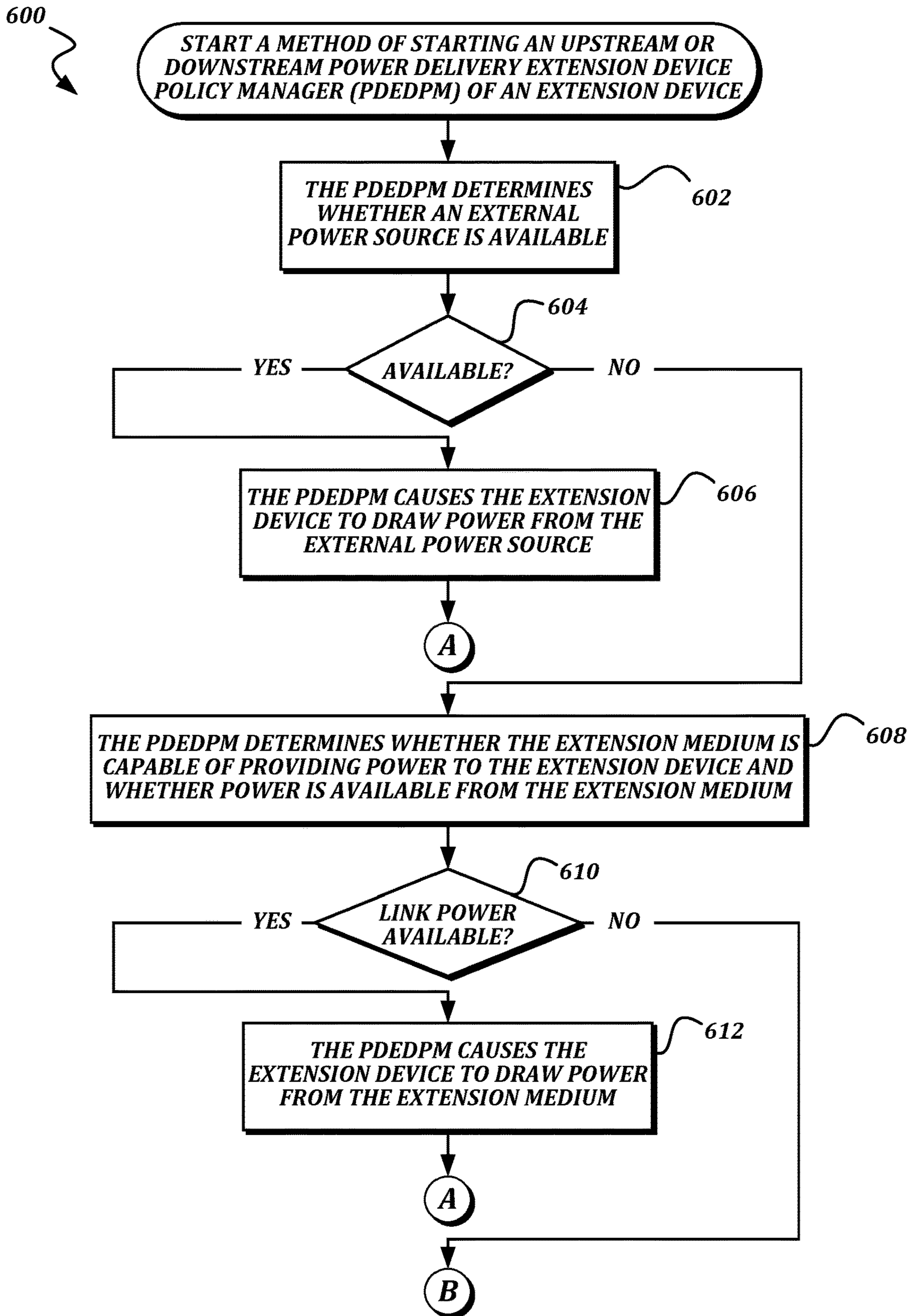
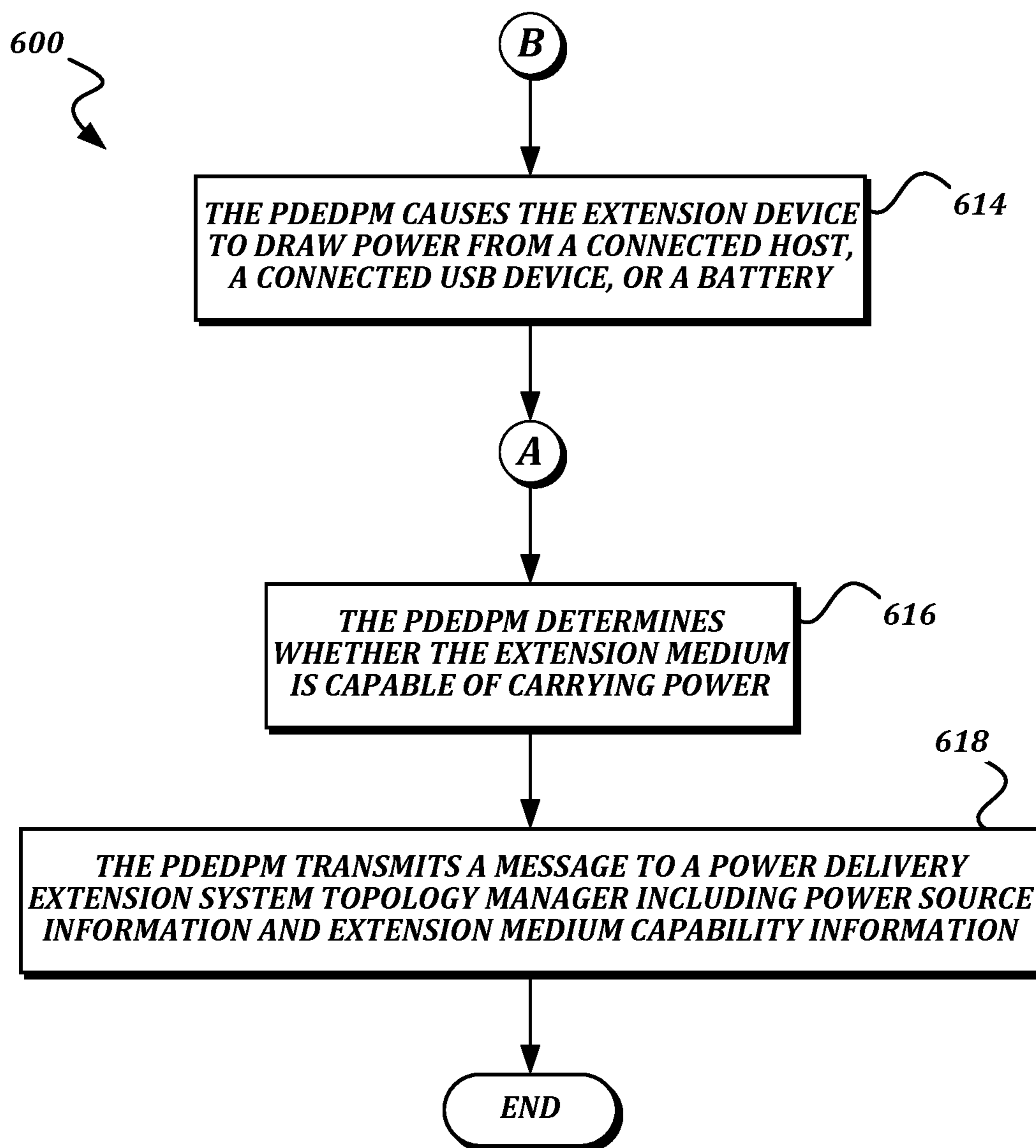


FIG. 6A

**FIG. 6B**

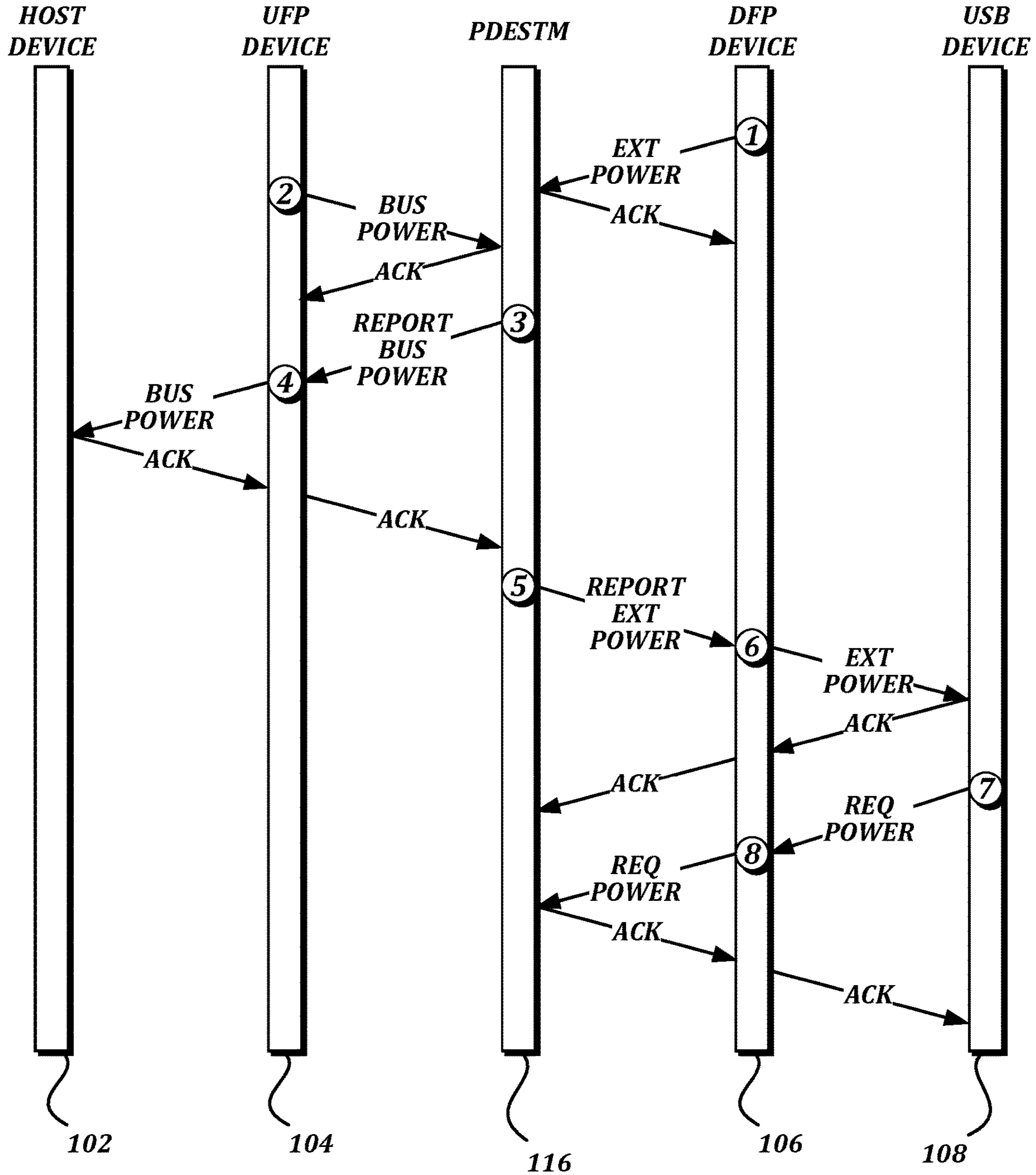


FIG. 7

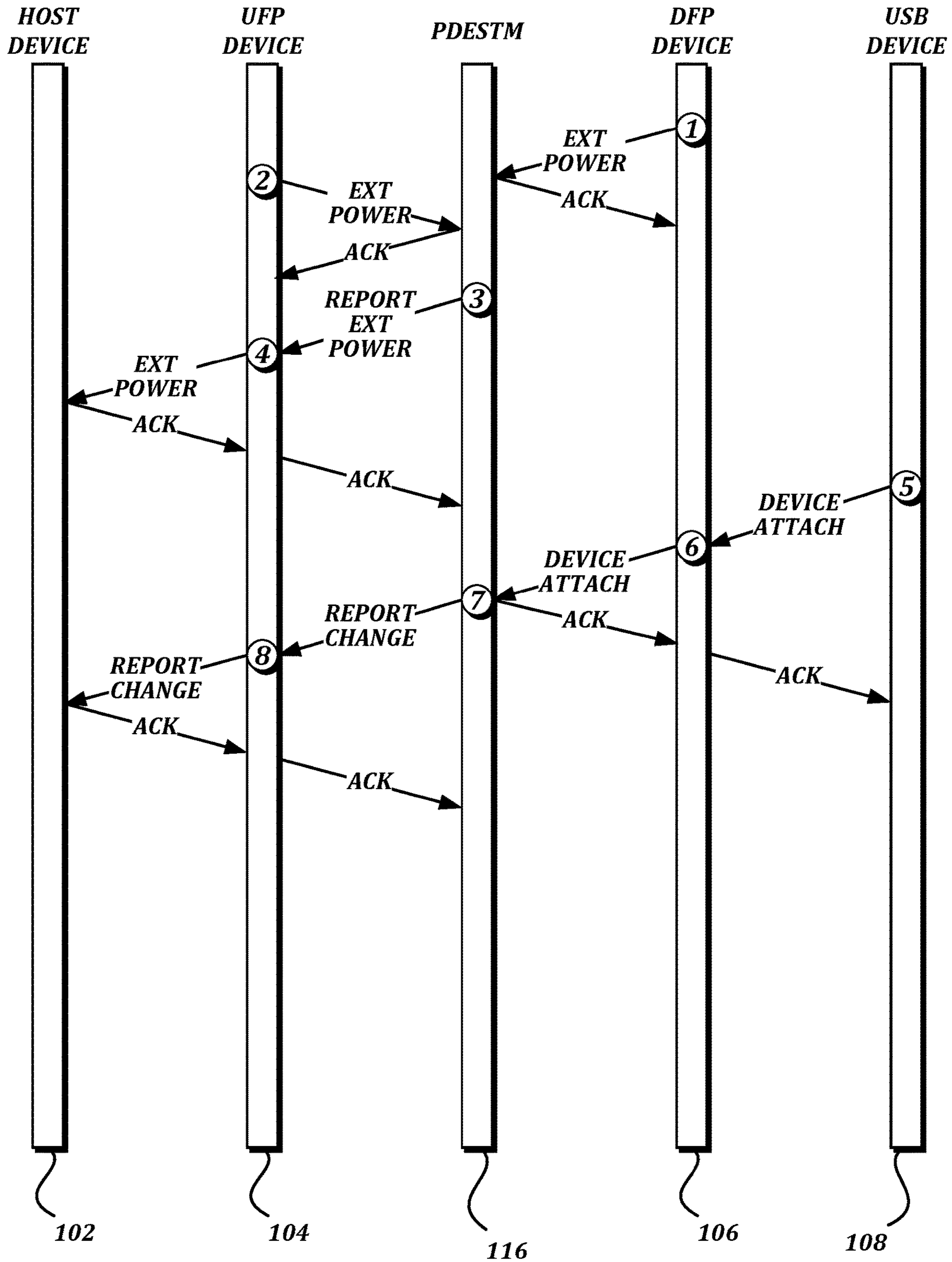


FIG. 8A

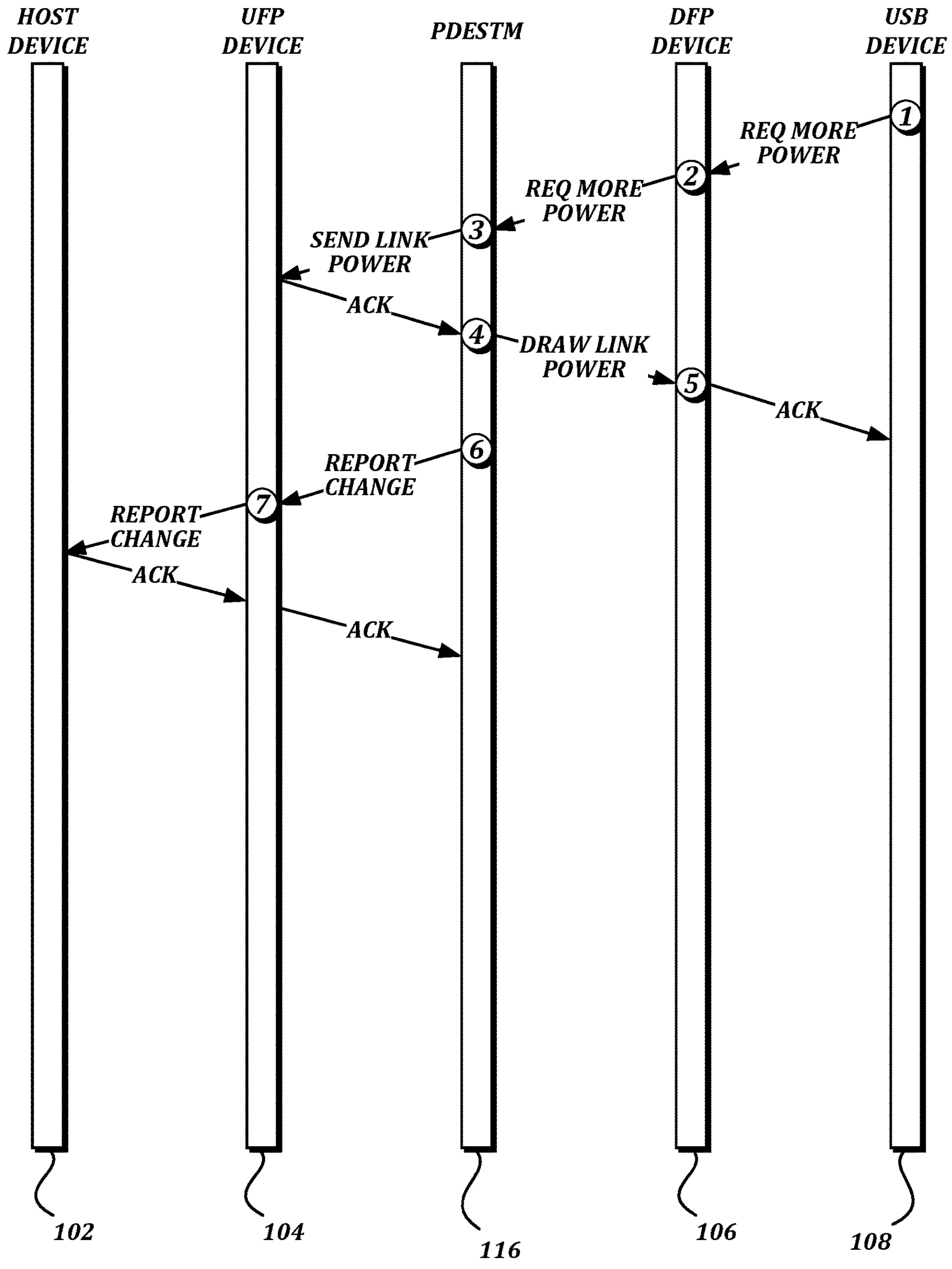


FIG. 8B

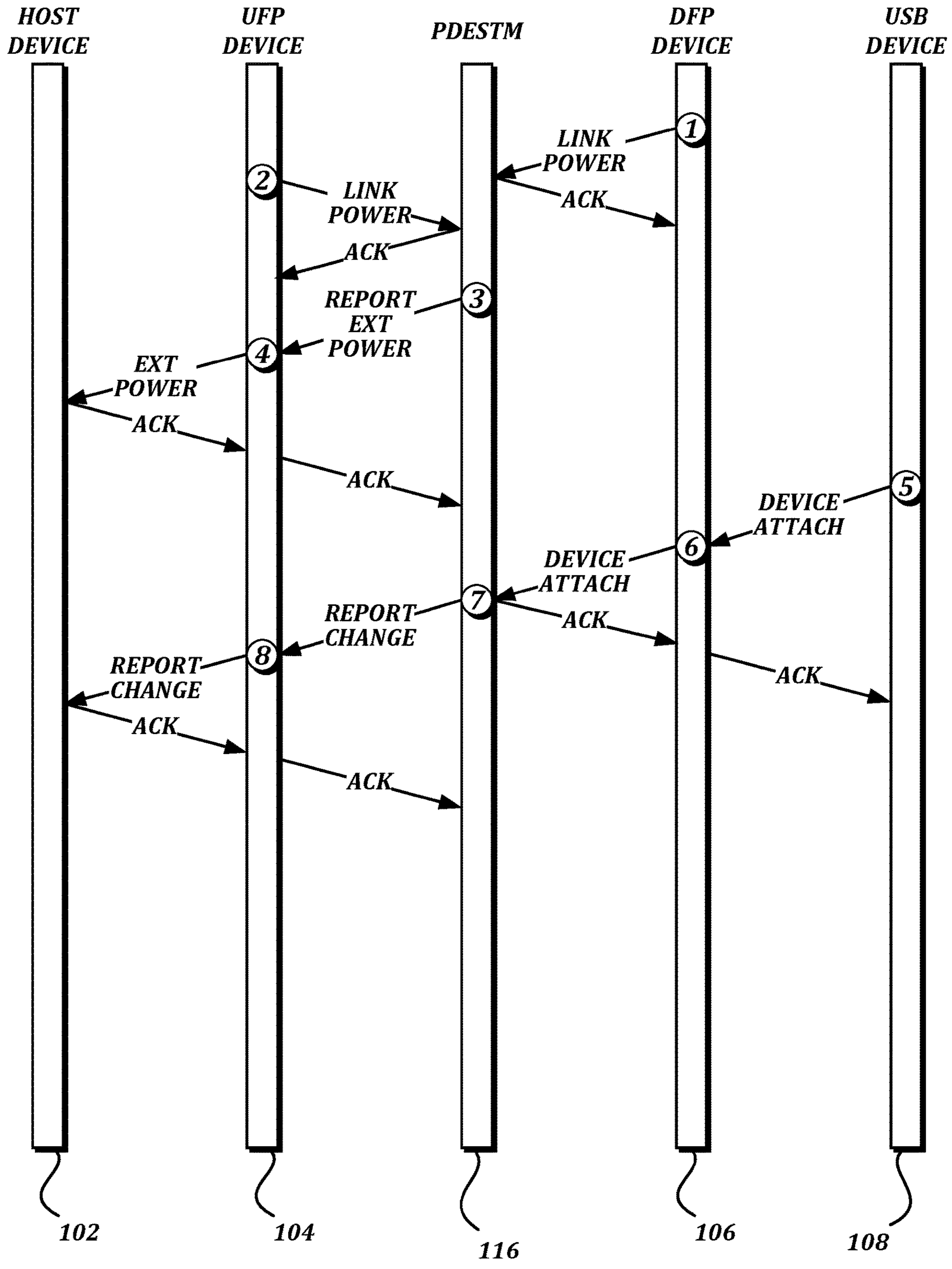


FIG. 9A

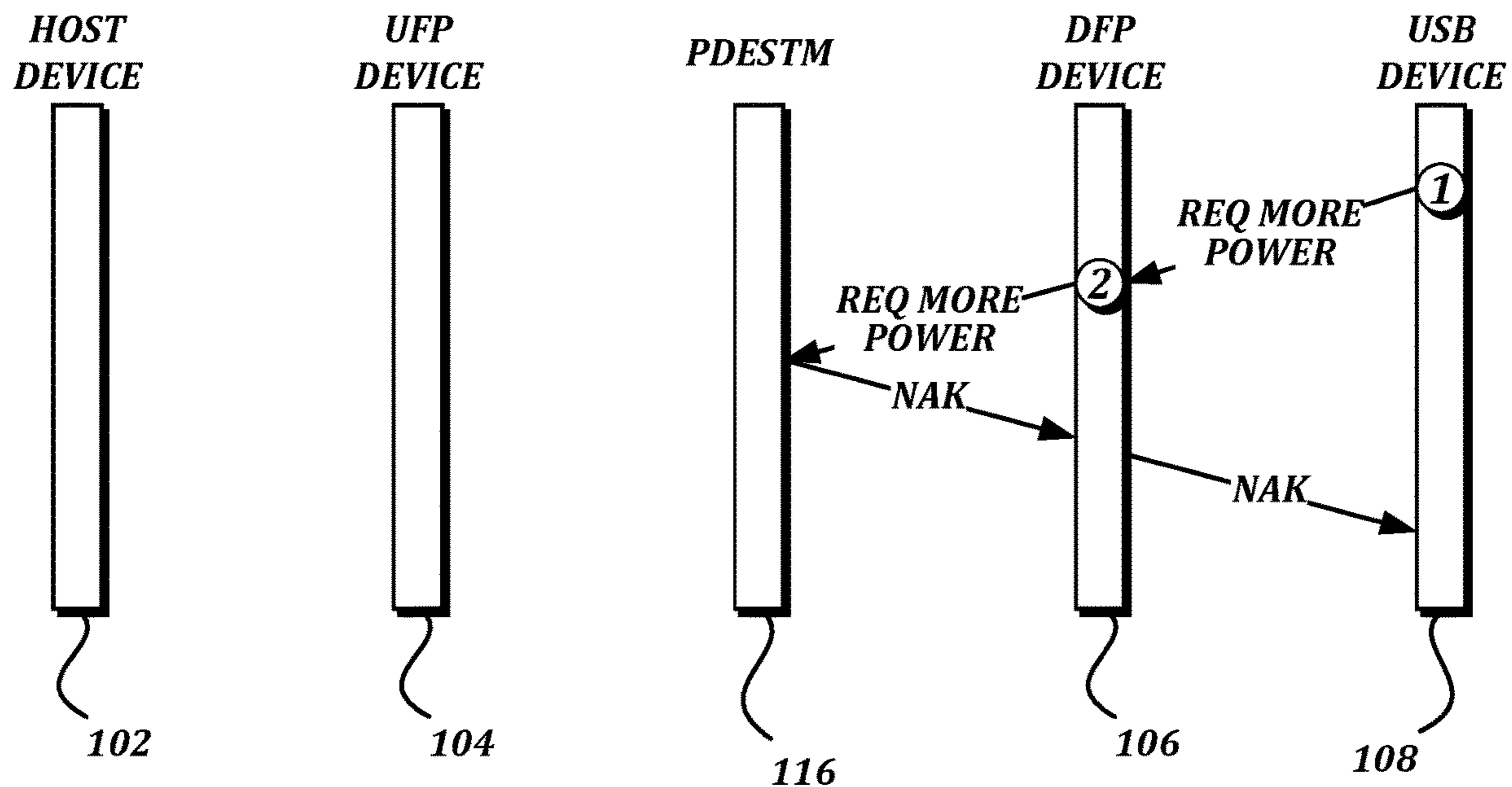


FIG. 9B

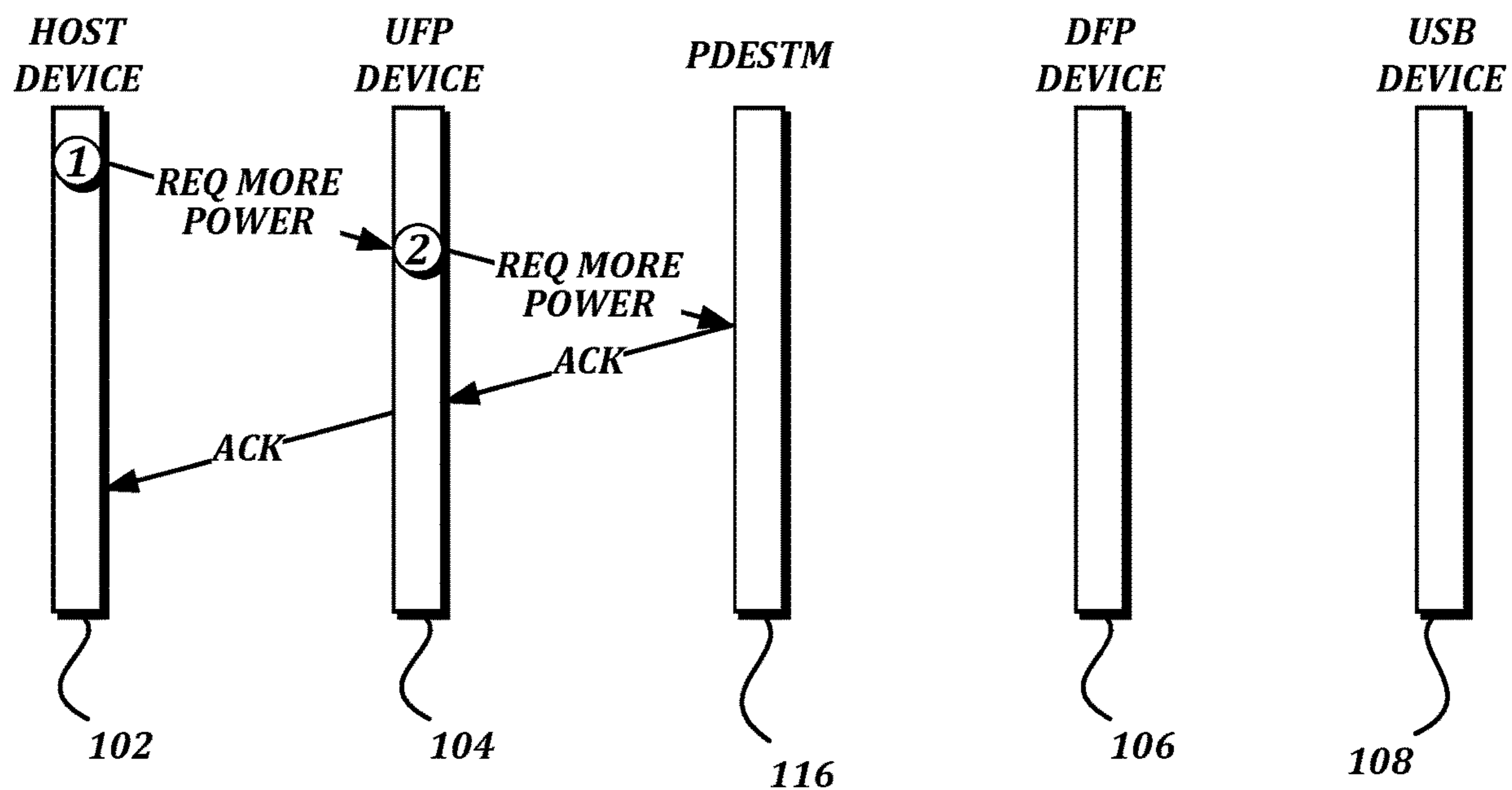


FIG. 9C

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MANAGING USB POWER DELIVERY

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of application Ser. No. 15/004,382, filed Jan. 22, 2016, which claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 62/107,253, filed Jan. 23, 2015, the entire disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein for all purposes.

BACKGROUND

Universal Serial Bus (USB) is a peripheral interface for attaching a wide variety of computing devices, such as personal computers, digital telephone lines, monitors, modems, mice, printers, scanners, game controllers, keyboards, storage devices, and/or the like. The specifications defining USB (e.g., Intel et al., Universal Serial Bus Specification, Revision 1.0, January 1996; updated as Revision 1.1 in September 1998; and further updated as Revision 2.0 in April 2000; Universal Serial Bus 3.0 Specification, Revision 1.0, Jun. 6, 2011; Universal Serial Bus 3.1 Specification, Revision 1.0, Jul. 26, 2013; and subsequent updates and modifications—hereinafter collectively referred to as the “USB Specifications”, which term can include future modifications and revisions) are non-proprietary and are managed by an open industry organization known as the USB Forum. The USB Specifications establish basic criteria that must be met in order to comply with USB standards. One of ordinary skill in the art will recognize many terms herein from the USB Specifications. Those terms are used herein in a similar manner to their use in the USB Specifications, unless otherwise stated.

Under each of the USB Specifications, certain timing requirements are established that result in a maximum supported length for media that connects USB devices. For example, under the Universal Serial Bus 3.0 Specification, SuperSpeed connections are provided that use a 5 Gbps signaling rate. Though the specification does not mandate any particular maximum cable length, in practical terms the timing mandates and signaling techniques require a regular copper cable used for a SuperSpeed connection between a host and a device to be at most 3 meters long to properly support the SuperSpeed connection. Therefore, non-standard methods and apparatuses are needed to optionally allow for extension of a SuperSpeed USB device to a greater distance from the host to which it is coupled, such that SuperSpeed USB packets may be propagated between the host and the USB device, and such that SuperSpeed connections may be maintained between the host and the USB device even if the host and/or the device enter an idle or suspend state. Some examples of such methods and apparatuses are provided in commonly owned U.S. Pat. No. 8,868,792, issued Oct. 21, 2014, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated herein for all purposes. Similar problems exist for the transmission of USB communication at other speeds (including but not limited to low speed, full speed, and high speed) between a host or hub and a USB device over a non-USB compliant extension medium.

The management of power delivery via USB, including the ability to negotiate voltage, current, and/or direction of power flow over the power conductor (V_{bus}), is described in the Universal Serial Bus Power Delivery Specification, Revision 1.0, including Errata through 11 Mar. 2014 (Version 1.3) (hereinafter “USB PD Specification 1.0”), avail-

able from the USB Implementers Forum at <http://www.usb.org>, the entirety of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes. The USB PD Specification 1.0 was updated to support the requirements of the USB Type-C specification and to incorporate additional changes, in the USB Power Delivery v2.0 Specification, published Aug. 11, 2014 (hereinafter “USB Power Delivery specification”, and collectively with the USB PD Specification 1.0 as “USB PD Specifications”) and available from the USB Implementers Forum at <http://www.usb.org>, the entirety of which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

While the USB PD Specifications do describe the ability to manage power distribution over a USB topology, there is no discussion in the USB PD specifications regarding the management of power distribution in cases where a host or hub and a device are separated by a non-USB compliant extension medium.

SUMMARY

This summary is provided to introduce a selection of concepts in a simplified form that are further described below in the Detailed Description. This summary is not intended to identify key features of the claimed subject matter, nor is it intended to be used as an aid in determining the scope of the claimed subject matter.

In some embodiments, a system for providing Universal Serial Bus (USB) power delivery across a non-USB extension medium is provided. The system comprises an upstream facing port device (UFP device), a downstream facing port device (DFP device), and a power delivery extension system topology manager (PDESTM). The UFP device includes at least one USB upstream facing port configured to be communicatively coupled to a USB host device, and an extension medium interface configured to be coupled to the non-USB extension medium. The DFP device includes at least one USB downstream facing port configured to be communicatively coupled to a USB device, and an extension medium interface configured to be coupled to the non-USB extension medium. The PDESTM is communicatively coupled to the UFP device and the DFP device and is configured to manage power delivery policies implemented by the UFP device and the DFP device.

In some embodiments, a computer-implemented method performed by a power delivery extension system topology manager of a USB extension system is provided. The USB extension system comprises an upstream facing port device (UFP device) and a downstream facing port device (DFP device). A first power state notification is received from the DFP device. A second power state notification is received from the UFP device. An instruction is sent to the UFP device to report a power state to a system policy manager, the reported power state based on the first power state notification and the second power state notification.

In some embodiments, a USB extension device is provided. The USB extension device comprises at least one USB upstream facing port or at least one USB downstream facing port; an extension medium interface configured to be coupled to an extension medium; a power-over-link engine; and a power delivery extension device policy manager. The power delivery extension device policy manager is configured to determine whether power is available from an external power source; in response to determining that power is not available from the external power source, determine whether power is available from the extension medium; and in response to determining that power is

available from the extension medium, draw power for the USB extension device from the extension medium via the power-over-link engine.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing aspects and many of the attendant advantages of this invention will become more readily appreciated as the same become better understood by reference to the following detailed description, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram that illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a system that provides USB power delivery functionality over a non-USB compliant extension medium according to various aspects of the present disclosure;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram that illustrates an exemplary embodiment of an upstream facing port device (UFP device) according to various aspects of the present disclosure;

FIG. 3 is a block diagram that illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a downstream facing port device (DFP device) according to various aspects of the present disclosure;

FIGS. 4A-4E are schematic diagrams that illustrate various power distribution topologies that may be supported by embodiments of the present disclosure;

FIG. 5 is a schematic diagram that illustrates an exemplary power delivery topology according to various aspects of the present disclosure;

FIGS. 6A-6B are a flowchart that illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a method of starting an upstream or downstream power delivery extension device policy manager (PDEDPM) of an extension device, according to various aspects of the present disclosure; and

FIGS. 7, 8A, 8B, 9A, 9B, and 9C are sequence diagrams that illustrate communications within exemplary embodiments of systems according to various aspects of the present disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Embodiments of the present disclosure provide systems and/or methods for managing power distribution over a USB topology, particularly in situations where the topology includes a local extender (LEX, also known as an upstream facing port device (UFP device)) connected to a USB host or a hub and a remote extender (REX, also known as a downstream facing port device (DFP device)) connected to a USB device, wherein the UFP device and the DFP device communicate via a non-USB compliant extension medium.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram that illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a system that provides USB power delivery functionality over a non-USB compliant extension medium according to various aspects of the present disclosure. The system 100 includes a host device 102 and a USB device 108. Traditionally, the host device 102 and the USB device 108 would be directly connected via a USB cable (or connected via USB cables and one or more USB-compliant hub devices), and would communicate directly with one another via a protocol that conforms to a USB specification, such as USB 1.0, USB 1.1, USB 2.0, USB 3.0, or USB 3.1. The host device 102 and the USB device 108 would also exchange information regarding the exchange of power over the USB bus by transmitting USB Power Delivery messages via a USB data channel in order to configure the transmission of power between the host device 102 and the USB device 108. As discussed above, once the host device 102 and USB device 108 are separated by a non-USB commu-

nication medium that may or may not support the transmission of power in compliance with the USB Power Delivery specification, issues will arise if the system 100 provides an otherwise transparent USB connection between the host device 102 and USB device 108.

The host device 102 may be any type of computing device containing a USB host controller and supports USB Power Delivery. Some examples of suitable host devices 102 may include, but are not limited to, a desktop computer, a laptop computer, a tablet computing device, a server computer, a set-top box, an audio head unit for an automobile, an embedded host, and/or the like. Likewise, the USB device 108 may be any type of device capable of communicating via a USB protocol with a USB host controller and that supports USB Power Delivery. Some examples of suitable USB devices 108 may include, but are not limited to, a webcam, a human interface device such as a keyboard or mouse, a mass storage device such as a flash drive or external hard drive, a USB-capable medical device, a printer, a USB hub, a wireless controller, a monitor, and/or the like. In some embodiments, devices that otherwise include a USB host controller may take the place of the illustrated USB device 108 in order to act as a USB Power Delivery sink that obtains power from the host device 102. For example, a tablet computing device may be attached to the system 100 as a USB device 108 (instead of a host device 108) in order to charge itself from the host device 102.

In the present system 100, the host device 102 is connected via a USB-compatible connection 118 to an upstream facing port device (UFP device) 104, and the USB device 108 is connected via a USB-compatible connection 122 to a downstream facing port device (DFP device) 106. The UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106 are communicatively coupled via an extension medium 120. The extension medium 120 may increase the distance between the host device 102 and the USB device 108 beyond that supported by the USB Specifications. The extension medium 120 and communication thereon may include any suitable networking technology, such as Ethernet, Bluetooth, WiFi, WiMax, the Internet, serial communication, and/or the like, and any suitable communication medium, such as via physical cables, via wireless spectrum, via fiber-optic cable, and/or the like. In some embodiments, the UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106 may happen to be closer to each other than the short USB requirement distance, and/or may be directly connected by a cable instead of via an extension medium 120.

In some embodiments, the extension medium 120 may be capable of carrying both power and data. For example, the extension medium 120 may include Ethernet cables that are capable of supporting Power over Ethernet (PoE) or similar power transfer techniques. In some embodiments, the extension medium 120 may include separate physical paths for power and data, such as active optical cables that have an optical path for data and a copper conductor for power transmission. In some embodiments, separate connectors may be used as part of the extension medium 120 to segregate power transmission from data transmission (such as using two Ethernet cables, using a simple power cable, and/or the like). In some embodiments, the extension medium 120 does not support transmission of power.

Though only a single USB device 108 is illustrated, it is to be noted that more than one USB device 108 may be coupled to the DFP device 106 via more than one downstream facing port. Also, though the UFP device 104 is illustrated as pairing with a single DFP device 106, in some embodiments, the UFP device 104 may be paired with more

than one DFP device **106**. In some embodiments, the host device **102** may be separated from the UFP device **104** by one or more USB hubs. Likewise, the DFP device **106** may be connected to an upstream facing port of a USB hub instead of to a USB device **108**.

In some embodiments, the UFP device **104** and DFP device **106** enable transparent USB data communication between the host device **102** and the USB device **108** over the extension medium. In other words, host device **102** appears to be directly connected to USB device **108** via USB-compliant connections, despite the presence of the non-USB compliant extension medium **120**. Various techniques for enabling such communication are disclosed in various commonly owned U.S. patents, including U.S. Pat. No. 6,381,666, issued Apr. 30, 2002; U.S. Pat. No. 7,149,833, issued Dec. 12, 2006; U.S. Pat. No. 9,129,064, issued Sep. 8, 2015; U.S. Pat. No. 8,868,792, issued Oct. 21, 2014; U.S. Pat. No. 9,047,418, issued Jun. 2, 2015; and U.S. Pat. No. 8,788,734, issued Jul. 22, 2014, the entire disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein for all purposes.

The system **100** may include one or more external power sources **110**, **114**. An external power source, as discussed further below, is considered constant and unchanging, such as a wall power source. The system **100** may also include an extension medium power source **112** that, as is discussed further below, can provide power to the UFP device **104** or the DFP device **106** via the extension medium **120** from a separate device. The external power sources **110**, **114** and the extension medium power source **112** are illustrated in dashed line to show that, in some embodiments, one or all of these components may not be present.

The system **100** also includes a power delivery extension system topology manager (PDESTM) **116**. As discussed in detail below, the PDESTM **116** manages the power delivery functionality of the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106**, and allows USB Power Delivery functionality to be functional despite the presence of the extension medium **120** between the host device **102** and the USB device **108**. To that end, the PDESTM **116** is configured to block or cause altered USB Power Delivery messages to be sent to the system policy manager on the host device **102**, when appropriate, based on the available power sources and the capabilities of the extension medium **120**. In some embodiments, the PDESTM **116** can also manage power requests from a USB device **108** without communicating with the host device **102**, in situations where power cannot be transferred over the extension medium **120**.

The PDESTM **116** is illustrated as a separate component and is dashed, not because it is optional in the system **100** or is necessarily separate from the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106**, but because it may be in several locations within the system **100**. As illustrated below, the PDESTM **116** may be located in UFP device **104**, in DFP device **106**, or on a separate power delivery system management device **502**. The hardware for providing the PDESTM **116** may be present in more than one place in the system **100**, but only one PDESTM **116** will be active within the system **100** at any given time.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram that illustrates an exemplary embodiment of an upstream facing port device (UFP device) according to various aspects of the present disclosure. The UFP device **104** includes one or more upstream facing ports **208**, **210**, **212**. The upstream facing ports **208**, **210**, **212** are ports that comply with a USB Specification, such as a Type A port, a Type B port, a micro-variant of one of these ports, a Type C port, and/or any other suitable USB port. In some

embodiments, only a single upstream facing port **208** is present. In some embodiments, more than one upstream facing port may be present in order to concurrently provide USB extension and power capabilities to more than one host device **102**, or to allow the UFP device **104** to be reconfigured as a DFP device **106**.

The UFP device **104** also includes an extension medium interface **224** configured to provide physical access to the extension medium. In some embodiments, the extension medium interface **224** may include an RJ45 jack and its associated circuitry for enabling connection of an Ethernet cable of the extension medium **120** to the UFP device **104**. In some embodiments, the extension medium interface **224** may include one or more optical cable connectors and/or active optical cable connectors. In some embodiments, the extension medium interface **224** may include more than one extension medium interface **224** to enable connection to multiple different extension media. In some embodiments, separate physical connections to multiple different extension media may be combined into a single extension medium interface **224**.

The USB extension engine **222** of the UFP device **104** works with a USB extension engine **322** of the DFP device **106** to provide USB communication between the host device **102** and the USB device **108** over the non-USB compliant extension medium **120**. Further details regarding the USB extension engine **222** and the techniques used to extend USB communication across the non-USB extension medium are provided in the disclosure of the patents incorporated above, and so are not again described here.

The UFP device **104** includes a power bus **206** coupled to each of the upstream facing ports **208**, **210**, **212**. The power bus **206** is also coupled to a power-over-link engine **204**, an external power adapter **202**, and a battery **203**. Each of the external power adapter **202**, the battery **203**, and the power-over-link engine **204** may be configured to send power to the power bus **206**, which may then be drawn by one or more of the upstream facing ports **208**, **210**, **212**. The battery **203** and the power-over-link engine **204** may also be configured to draw power from the power bus **206**. For example, an upstream facing port **208** may be configured to draw power from the host device **102**, which is then made available on the power bus **206**. The battery **203** may then draw this power from the power bus **206** in order to charge itself, and/or the power-over-link engine **204** may draw this power from the power bus **206** in order to transmit power to the DFP device **106** across the extension medium **120**.

The external power adapter **202** is configured to be connected to an external power source. Some examples of external power adapters **202** include, but are not limited to, a socket for a detachable power cable; a captive power cable; a socket for a power converter commonly referred to as a wall wart or power brick; a plug for plugging the UFP device **104** directly into a wall socket, and/or the like. The external power source may be any type of power source that can be considered constant and unchanging. A typical example of an external power source is a common wall socket of a commercial or residential building that provides A/C power, though any other similar power source may be used. If the external power adapter **202** is connected to the external power source, the power available to the UFP device **104** via the external power adapter **202** is essentially constant, and is determined by circuitry of the external power adapter **202** and the source to which it is connected. The battery **203** may be any type of disposable or reusable battery commonly used to power electronic devices, such as an alkaline battery, an Li-ion battery, a NiMH battery, and/or the like. In some

embodiments, one or both of the external power adapter **202** and the battery **203** are optional, and may be omitted (or may be present but unused).

The power-over-link engine **204** is configured to send power to the extension medium **120** and/or receive power from the extension medium **120**. Any technology suitable for transmitting power over an extension medium **120** may be used, including but not limited to Power over Ethernet (PoE), active optical cable (an optical cable paired with a copper wire), a dedicated power cable, and/or the like. As discussed further below, power transmitted to the UFP device **104** from the extension medium **120** may come from the DFP device **106**, or may from a separate device such as a PoE switch or injector.

Each upstream facing port **208**, **210**, **212** is paired with a respective policy engine **214**, **216**, **218**. The policy engines **214**, **216**, **218** may be implemented according to the USB Power Delivery specification, including Section 8.3 of the specification, and may receive local policies from the upstream power delivery extension device policy manager (upstream PDEDPM) **220**. The upstream PDEDPM **220** is configured to handle change requests from policy engines **214**, **216**, **218**, using techniques similar to those in which a device policy manager interacts with policy engines as described in the USB Power Delivery specification. The upstream PDEDPM **220** also interacts with PDESTM **116** in a way similar to how a device policy manager interacts with the system policy manager as defined in the USB Power Delivery specification in that it may pass change requests from the policy engines to the PDESTM **116** for processing and/or approval, and may respond to instructions from the PDESTM **116** that include local policies for the policy engines to implement. The upstream PDEDPM **220** also receives instructions from PDESTM **116** to report changes that occur at the DFP device **106** to the system policy manager of the host device **102**, and receives instructions from the PDESTM **116** regarding whether or not to set an “externally powered” bit in communications with the system policy manager on host device **102**. These actions are discussed further below.

As illustrated, the UFP device **104** includes a power delivery extension system topology manager (PDESTM) **116**. The PDESTM **116** operates in a manner similar to a system policy manager as defined in the USB Power Delivery specification. That is, the PDESTM **116** receives change requests from the upstream PDEDPM **220** and the downstream PDEDPM **320**, and provides power delivery policies in response to the change requests based on the power delivery capabilities and power available throughout the extension system. However, instead of gathering topology information for presentation to software on the host device **102**, the PDESTM **116** hides the presence of the extension medium **120** from the system policy manager on the host device **102**, and compensates for the presence of the extension medium **120** by altering change notifications generated by the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** as discussed further below.

The PDESTM **116** is illustrated as optional because it may reside on either the UFP device **104**, the DFP device **106**, or on a separate power delivery system management device **502**. In some embodiments, the circuitry or other hardware for implementing the PDESTM **116** may be present on more than one of the UFP device **104**, the DFP device **106**, and the power delivery system management device **502**. However, during operation, only one PDESTM **116** will be functional for a given power delivery topology. The PDESTM **116** transmits and receives messages similar to the standard USB

power delivery messages, which are transmitted via traditional USB data communication techniques. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the PDESTM **116** may communicate with the upstream PDEDPM **220** and the downstream PDEDPM **320** by sending USB information via the USB extension engine **222**. In some embodiments, the PDESTM **116** may communicate with remote devices via the extension medium **120** using a proprietary protocol adapted for use on the extension medium **120** (such as TCP/IP, UDP/IP, and/or the like), instead of using the USB extension functionality.

FIG. 3 is a block diagram that illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a downstream facing port device (DFP device) according to various aspects of the present disclosure. The DFP device **106** includes many components that are similar to those within the UFP device **104** illustrated in FIG. 2, such as an external power adapter **302**, a battery **303**, a power bus **306**, a link hardware interface **324**, a power-over-link engine **304**, and a USB extension engine **322**. Since these components were fully described above with respect to the UFP device **104**, further description with respect to the DFP device **106** is not necessary.

Instead of having one or more upstream facing ports, the DFP device **106** includes one or more downstream facing ports **308**, **310**, **312**. The downstream facing ports **308**, **310**, **312** are ports that comply with a USB Specification, such as a Type A port, a Type B port, a micro-variant of one of these ports, a Type C port, and/or any other suitable USB port. In some embodiments, only a single downstream facing port **308** may be present, but in most embodiments, multiple downstream facing ports **308** are present, similar to a USB hub.

As with the UFP device **104**, each of the downstream facing ports **308**, **310**, **312** is paired with a respective policy engine **314**, **316**, **318** that is implemented according to the USB Power Delivery specification. The downstream power delivery extension device policy manager (downstream PDEDPM) **320** provides local policies to the policy engines **314**, **316**, **318** as instructed by the PDESTM **116**, as discussed further below. Further, as with the upstream PDEDPM **220**, the downstream PDEDPM **320** obtains instructions from the PDESTM **116**, which may either be operating on the DFP device **106** or communicating to the DFP device **106** from another device via the extension medium **120**.

FIGS. 4A-4E are schematic diagrams that illustrate various power distribution topologies that may be supported by embodiments of the present disclosure. The arrows in the illustrations indicate power flow or availability, as discussed in detail in the accompanying text below. The dashed line labeled extension system **400** is provided for ease of discussion, and indicates the portions of the system **100** that are transparent to the host device **102** and the USB device **108**, and that are provided by cooperation between the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** via the extension medium **120**.

In FIG. 4A, neither the UFP device **104**, nor the DFP device **106** has access to an external power source, but the extension medium **120** supports power transmission. In this case, the UFP device **104** acts as a USB power delivery sink towards the host device **102**, drawing power from the host device **102** over USB to power the extension system **400**. The UFP device **104** transfers power to the DFP device **106** via the extension medium **120** in order to power the DFP device **106**, and also to power the USB device **108**. The power delivered to the USB device **108** is labeled as “bus” in order to indicate that the extension system **400** is not externally powered, since it is obtaining its power from an

ultimate source (the host device **102**) that is not externally powered, as would be expected according to the USB Power Delivery specification. Though not illustrated, a similar topology may be supported wherein the USB device **108** is externally powered, and the DFP device **106** draws power from the USB device **108** in order to power the UFP device **104** and host device **102** over the extension medium **120**.

It is worth noting that because the neither the UFP device **104** nor the DFP device **106** has access to an external power source, the extension system **400** itself is powered by the host device **102**. In order to enable this, in some embodiments the UFP device **104** may initially be powered by a default voltage provided by the host device **102** via USB. The UFP device **104** may then request enough additional voltage from the host device **102** via USB Power Delivery in order to also transmit enough power over the extension medium **120** to power the DFP device **104** as well (taking into account losses over the extension medium **120**). In embodiments wherein the extension system **400** is transparent to the host device **102**, the UFP device **104** may maintain a connected but disabled state in communications with the host device **102** so that the host device **102** provides default (or requested) power but does not try to enumerate endpoints. In some embodiments, upon connection of a USB device **108** that requests additional power, the UFP device **104** may disconnect from and reconnect to the host device **102** in order to obtain the additional power, or may submit a USB Power Delivery change request as discussed below.

In FIG. **4B**, both the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** have access to external power sources, and the extension medium **120** also supports power transmission. In this case, the UFP device **104** can provide power to the host device **102** over USB, and the DFP device **106** can provide power to the USB device **108** over USB. If needed, the UFP device **104** and DFP device **106** can also exchange power over the extension medium **120** in order to meet a power request that is greater than either of the external power sources can meet alone. Because the ultimate source of the power provided to both the host device **102** and the USB device **108** is an external power source, both the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** can report their power source as externally powered according to the USB Power Delivery specification. Though not illustrated, a similar topology is also supported wherein power cannot be transmitted via the extension medium **120**. The only difference would be that the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** would not exchange power over the extension medium **120**, but since they are both externally powered, they could both still provide power to connected devices via USB.

In FIG. **4C**, only the UFP device **104** has access to an external power source, and the extension medium **120** supports power transmission. In this case, the UFP device **104** can provide power to the DFP device **106** via the extension medium **120**, and the DFP device **106** can, in turn, provide this power to the USB device **108** over USB. The UFP device **104** can also provide power to the host device **102**. Because the ultimate source of the power provided throughout the system is an external power source, both the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** can report their power source as externally powered according to the USB Power Delivery specification, even though the DFP device **106** is receiving power from the extension medium **120** instead of an external power source.

In FIG. **4D**, only the DFP device **106** has access to an external power source, and the extension medium **120** supports power transmission. This embodiment is similar to that illustrated in FIG. **4C**, though it is the DFP device **106**

and not the UFP device **104** that is externally powered. The DFP device **106** can provide power to the UFP device **104** over the extension medium **120** in order to power the UFP device **104**, and so that the UFP device **104** may provide power over USB to the host device **102**. The DFP device **106** can also provide power to the USB device **108** over USB. Both the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** may report their power source as externally powered according to the USB Power Delivery specification because the ultimate source of the power is the external power source used by the DFP device **106**.

In FIG. **4E**, only the DFP device **106** has access to an external power source, and the extension medium **120** does not support power transmission (though it does still support the transmission of data). In such an embodiment, a fully transparent extension system **400** can run into problems because the power source information is no longer consistent between the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106**. The DFP device **106** draws power from its external power source. The UFP device **104**, because it does not have an external power source, draws power from the host device **102** over USB. Because the DFP device **106** is receiving power from an external power source, it can provide power to the USB device **108** and it can report its power source as externally powered. However, the UFP device **104** reports its power source as not externally powered to the host device **102** so that the host device **102** will not attempt to swap roles or otherwise stop providing power to the UFP device **104**. As discussed further below, the PDESTM **116** manages power requests on the DFP device **106**, so that the USB device **108** may still access full USB Power Delivery functionality despite the presence of the extension medium. The PDESTM **116** may also hide the USB device **108** from the system policy manager on the host device **102** so that the host device **102** does not end up having inconsistent information. In some embodiments, the PDESTM **116** may present the USB device **108** to the system policy manager as being self-powered (even though it is receiving power from the DFP device **106**) so that the system policy manager would not try to reconfigure the USB device **108**.

FIG. **5** is a schematic diagram that illustrates an exemplary power delivery topology according to various aspects of the present disclosure. In FIG. **5**, power is provided over the extension medium **120** by a power delivery system management device **502** that is separate from any UFP device or DFP device. One example of a power delivery system management device **502** that can provide power via the extension medium **120** is endspan power sourcing equipment such as a Power-over-Ethernet switch. Another way in which power may be provided on the extension medium **120** by a separate device is by the use of one or more midspan devices such as PoE injector devices. The use of a power delivery system management device **502** also allows the PDESTM **116** to reside on the power delivery system management device **502** instead of a UFP device or a DFP device. This can allow the PDESTM **116** to balance power requests across the entire extension medium **120**, even if multiple UFP devices and/or DFP devices are present on the extension medium **120**. In some embodiments, the PDESTM **116** may reside on a UFP device or a DFP device, but communicates with the power delivery system management device **502** to balance power requests across the entire extension medium **120**.

As illustrated in FIG. **5**, multiple UFP devices **506**, **514**, **524** may be coupled to the extension medium **120**, as may multiple DFP devices **508**, **516**, **526**. Pairings between UFP devices and DFP devices may be managed by any suitable

technique, including one or more techniques described in commonly owned, co-pending U.S. application Ser. No. 13/791,579, filed Mar. 8, 2013, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference for all purposes. In an exemplary configuration, the first UFP device **506** is paired with the first DFP device **508** to allow USB communication between the first host device **504** and the first USB device **510**; the second UFP device **514** is paired with the second DFP device **516** to allow communication between the second host device **512**, the second USB device **518**, and the third USB device **520**; and the third UFP device **524** is paired with the third DFP device **526** to allow communication between the third host device **522** and the fourth USB device **528**.

Because power delivered on the extension medium **120** is provided by the power delivery system management device **502**, power requests across the entire extension medium **120** are managed by the PDESTM **116** in conjunction with the power delivery system management device **502**. For example, the power delivery system management device **502** may support a maximum of 50 W of power across the entire extension medium **120**. If the first USB device **510** submits a change request for more power to the first DFP device **508**, the first DFP device **508** submits the change request for more power to the PDESTM **116**. The PDESTM **116** reviews all power being provided throughout the extension medium **120**, including power provided to the first UFP device **506** and first DFP device **510**, as well as to the second UFP device **514**, the second DFP device **516**, the third UFP device **524**, and the third DFP device **526**, in order to determine whether the additional power can be provided to the first DFP device **508** without reaching the 50 W power maximum of which the power delivery system management device **502** is capable of providing.

If the PDESTM **116** determines that the additional power can be provided without reaching the power maximum, then the change request may be approved. If the PDESTM **116** determines that providing the additional power would cause the power delivery system management device **502** to go over its power limit, the PDESTM **116** may submit requests to any of the extension devices on the network (even extension devices that are not paired with the first DFP device **508** or the first UFP device **506**) to give power back as described in the USB Power Delivery specification in order to service the additional power request from the first USB device **510**. One of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that the topology illustrated in FIG. **5** is exemplary only, and that in other embodiments, more or fewer devices may be present.

FIGS. **6A-6B** are a flowchart that illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a method of starting an upstream or downstream power delivery extension device policy manager (PDEDPM) of an extension device, according to various aspects of the present disclosure. The method **600** helps determine what power source should be used by the extension device in order to provide power via USB Power Delivery. The extension device may be the UFP device **104** or DFP device **106**, and so the PDEDPM could be the upstream PDEDPM **220** or the downstream PDEDPM **320**. The method **600** is similar for the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106**, and so they are described together for brevity. In some embodiments, the method **600** as described assumes that a minimal amount of power is drawn from some source (such as a default voltage supplied by the USB bus to devices that do not negotiate for more power via USB Power Delivery, a small amount of power provided via the extension medium **120**, a small amount of power provided

by the battery or an external source, and/or the like) upon connection, in order to operate the PDEDPM and conduct the method **600**.

From a start block, the method **600** proceeds to block **602**, where the PDEDPM determines whether an external power source is available. As discussed above with respect to FIGS. **2** and **3**, the external power source is a constant source of power accessible via the external power adapter. At decision block **604**, a test is performed based on the determination of whether an external power source is available. If an external power source is available, then the result of the test at decision block **604** is YES, and the method **600** proceeds to block **606**, where the PDEDPM causes the extension device to draw power from the external power source. This may be done using any suitable technique, including causing switching circuitry to couple the external power source to the power bus of the extension device, changing a firmware setting, or using any other suitable technique. The PDEDPM may also cause the selection of the external power source to be stored in a computer-readable medium, such as in an environment variable stored in volatile memory accessible by the PDEDPM. The method **600** then proceeds to a continuation terminal (“terminal A”).

Otherwise, if an external power source is not available, then the result of the test at decision block **604** is NO, and the method **600** proceeds to block **608**. At block **608**, the PDEDPM determines whether the extension medium **120** is capable of providing power to the extension device and whether power is available from the extension medium **120**. Determining whether the extension medium **120** is capable of providing power to the extension device and whether power is available from the extension medium **120** may include checking for presence of an extension medium **120** cable coupled to the extension medium interface by checking for a signature resistance; transmitting a signal via the extension medium **120** and checking for a response; checking for the presence of a chip in an active cable; and/or the like. If power is determined to be available, the determination may further include whether a minimum amount of power can be drawn, which may include a reserve amount for powering other devices. One example process for determining whether the extension medium **120** is capable of providing power and whether power is available is a process for powering up a Power over Ethernet (PoE) link.

At decision block **610**, a test is performed based on the determination of whether the extension medium **120** is capable of providing power to the extension device and whether (adequate) power is available from the extension medium **120** (also referred to as “link power”). If link power is available, then the result of the test at decision block **610** is YES, and the method **600** proceeds to block **612**, where the PDEDPM causes the extension device to draw power from the extension medium **120**. In some embodiments, the PDEDPM may also cause the power-over-link engine to couple the power from the extension medium **120** to the power bus of the extension device. In some embodiments, the choice of the link power source may also be stored in a computer-readable medium, such as in an environment variable stored in volatile memory accessible by the PDEDPM. The method **600** then proceeds to a continuation terminal (“terminal A”). Otherwise, if link power is not available, then the result of the test at decision block **610** is NO, and the method **600** proceeds to another continuation terminal (“terminal B”).

From terminal B (FIG. **6B**), the method **600** proceeds to block **614**, where the PDEDPM causes the extension device to draw power from a connected host device **102**, a con-

13

nected USB device **108**, or a battery. The extension device will draw power from the host device **102** or battery **203** if the extension device is a UFP device **104**, and will draw power from the USB device **108** or battery **303** if the extension device is a DFP device **106**. In some embodiments, the PDEDPM may cause bus power or battery power to be configured, drawn, and provided to the power bus. In some embodiments, the PDEDPM may also cause the selection of the bus power source or battery to be stored in a computer-readable medium, such as in an environment variable stored in volatile memory. One of skill in the art will recognize that the method **600** as described assumes that power is available via at least one of the sources discussed above. If power is not available from any of these sources, the extension device cannot be powered (or at least cannot provide USB Power Delivery functionality).

The method **600** then proceeds to terminal A, and then to block **616**, where the PDEDPM determines whether the extension medium **120** is capable of carrying power. Regardless of the power source chosen by the PDEDPM, this determination is made to check if the extension device can transmit power over the medium. In some embodiments, this test may be performed in a manner similar to the link power detection performed in block **608**. In some embodiments, the determination may explicitly check to see if a device capable of being a Power over Ethernet sink is coupled to the extension medium **120**. In some embodiments, the determination may check for a particular type of conductor or may query an active cable attached to the extension medium interface. In some embodiments, the determination described in block **616** may have already been made in block **608**, and therefore may not be repeated in block **616**. In some embodiments, the determined capability of the extension medium **120** may be stored in a computer-readable medium, such as in an environment variable stored in volatile memory.

At block **618**, the PDEDPM transmits a message to a power delivery extension system topology manager (PDESTM) **116**, the message including power source information and extension medium capability information. In other words, the PDEDPM informs the PDESTM **116** what power source it is using, and what capabilities it has determined are present in the extension medium. In some embodiments, the information transmitted to the PDESTM **116** may be retrieved from environment variables as discussed above. As discussed above, the PDESTM **116** may be part of the extension device (in which case the PDESTM **116** would be informed using an internal communication bus or direct memory communication), or may be on another device reachable via the extension medium **120** (in which case the PDESTM **116** would be informed via a packet, frame, or other transmission on the extension medium **120**). The method **600** then proceeds to an end block and terminates.

FIGS. 7, 8A, 8B, 9A, 9B, and 9C are sequence diagrams that illustrate communications within exemplary embodiments of systems according to various aspects of the present disclosure. The sequence diagrams each show the host device **102**, the UFP device **104**, the power delivery extension system topology manager (PDESTM) **116**, the DFP device **106**, and the USB device **108**. In each of the sequence diagrams, time flows vertically in the downward direction. As illustrated above, the host device **102** and the UFP device **104** communicate via a USB-compliant connection, and exchange information including USB power delivery messages. Similarly, the DFP device **106** and the USB device

14

108 communicate via a USB-compliant connection, and exchange information including USB power delivery messages.

The PDESTM **116** may reside on the UFP device **104**, on the DFP device **106**, or on a separate management computing device. If the PDESTM **116** resides on the UFP device **104**, then the UFP device **104** communicates with the PDESTM **116** via an internal communication bus, and the DFP device **106** communicates with the PDESTM **116** via the extension medium. If the PDESTM **116** resides on the DFP device **108**, then the DFP device **108** communicates with the PDESTM **116** via an internal communication bus, and the UFP device **106** communicates with the PDESTM **116** via the extension medium. If the PDESTM **116** resides on a separate management device, then both the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** communicate with the PDESTM **116** via the extension medium.

In each of the sequence diagrams, power state notifications and instructions may be sent using any suitable technique. In some embodiments, the power state notifications and/or instructions may be included in a specially formatted packet or frame with an indication of the desired value. In some embodiments, the power state notifications and/or instructions may be indicated via an unstructured signal or voltage. In some embodiments, the power state notifications and/or instructions may be sent using a network protocol such as TCP/IP or UDP/IP. In some embodiments wherein the sender and receiver are present on the same device, the power state notifications and/or instructions may be provided using a computer-readable medium which both the sender and receiver can access. In some embodiments, power notifications and other USB Power Delivery messages sent between the host device **102** and the UFP device **104**, and between the DFP device **106** and the USB device **108**, comply with the USB Power Delivery specification, though their contents may be synthesized in response to the instructions of the PDESTM **116** as opposed to reflecting the actual power delivery topology.

In each sequence diagram, it is illustrated that the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** take actions. In some embodiments, the action taken by the UFP device **104** may be performed or controlled at least in part by the upstream PDEDPM **220** on behalf of the UFP device **104**, and the action taken by the DFP device **106** may be performed or controlled at least in part by the downstream PDEDPM **320**. Despite these details regarding which components are performing the actions, the sequence diagrams and the discussion thereof refer only to the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** as a whole for the sake of clarity.

FIG. 7 illustrates communications within a system wherein the DFP device **106** is drawing power from an external power source and the UFP device **104** is drawing power from the USB bus. At point 1, the DFP device **106** transmits a first power state notification to the PDESTM **116** indicating that the power state of the DFP device **106** is externally powered, and the PDESTM **116** responds with an acknowledgement. At point 2, the UFP device **104** transmits a second power state notification to the PDESTM **116** indicating that the power state of the UFP device **104** is bus powered, and the PDESTM **116** responds with an acknowledgement.

Once the PDESTM **116** is aware of the power state of the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106**, it can determine how the extension system should be presented to the host device **102**. At point 3, the PDESTM **116** transmits an instruction to the UFP device **104** to cause the UFP device **104** to report to the host device **102** that it is bus powered or

15

otherwise not externally powered, and at point 4, the UFP device 104 transmits a notification to the host device 102 indicating that it is not externally powered. This notification to the host device 102 may be in the form of a USB power delivery capabilities message with the externally powered bit cleared, or may be in any other suitable format. The host device 102 may transmit an acknowledgement back to the UFP device 104, and the UFP device 104 may transmit an acknowledgement back to the PDESTM 116. In some embodiments, the report may indicate that the “extension system” is not externally powered, if the extension system is being exposed to the host device 102 as a USB hub device instead of being transparent. In some embodiments, the report may indicate that the USB device 108 is not externally powered or does not support USB Power Delivery, if the extension system is transparent to the host device 102.

Multiple benefits may be obtained and technical problems may be overcome by informing the host device 102 that the extension system lacks external power despite the use of an external power source by the DFP device 106. For example, the host device 102 will refrain from turning off bus power to the UFP device 104, and will not attempt to request a role swap with the UFP device 104. Accordingly, the UFP device 104 will remain powered, and the connection between the UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106 will remain active. As another example, in embodiments wherein the UFP device 104 and DFP device 106 are transparent to the host device 102 and the extension medium 120 cannot transmit power, the host device 102 and the USB device 108 may be confused if further processing isn't performed and the “externally powered” state of the USB device 108 or DFP device 106 is reported to the host device 102.

While the extension system could simply block USB power delivery traffic in cases where power cannot be transmitted over the extension medium and the UFP device 104 is bus powered, in some embodiments, the PDESTM 116 may allow power to be delivered by the externally powered DFP device 106 without fully informing the host. Accordingly, at point 5, the PDESTM 116 transmits an instruction to the DFP device 106 to cause the DFP device 106 to report to the USB device 108 that it is externally powered, and at point 6, the DFP device 106 transmits the notification to the USB device 108 indicating that it is externally powered. The USB device 108 may acknowledge the notification, and the DFP device 106 may acknowledge the instruction. The notification to the USB device 108 may be in the form of a USB power delivery capabilities message with the externally powered bit set, or may be in any other suitable format. In some embodiments, the DFP device 106 may notify the USB device 108 that it is externally powered without receiving an instruction from the PDESTM 116 to do so, once it begins to draw power from an external source.

At point 7, the USB device 108 transmits a request for power to the DFP device 106. This request for power is compliant with the USB power delivery specifications, and may be compatible with a Request message as defined in Section 6.4.2 of the USB Power Delivery specification. At point 8, the DFP device 106 transmits a request for power to the PDESTM 116, which approves the request with an acknowledgement if the PDESTM 116 determines that the requested amount of power is available to the DFP device 106. The DFP device 106 then approves the request from the USB device 108 with an acknowledgement, and the USB device 108 may then begin to draw the requested amount of power.

The sequence diagram of FIG. 7 ends at this point. It is to be noted that though the PDESTM 116 approved the request

16

for power from the USB device 108, the change in the power topology is not reported to the host device 102. Though this may prevent the system policy manager of the host device 102 from having accurate power delivery information for portions of the power delivery topology that are beyond the UFP device 104, the host device 102 may still communicate with the USB device 108 using other standard USB communication techniques, and the USB device 108 can still obtain power from the DFP device 106.

FIGS. 8A and 8B illustrate communications within a system wherein the DFP device 106 is drawing power from an external power source and the UFP device 104 is also drawing power from an external power source. At point 1, the DFP device 106 transmits a first power state notification to the PDESTM 116 indicating that the power state of the DFP device 106 is externally powered, and the PDESTM 116 responds with an acknowledgement. At point 2, the UFP device 104 transmits a second power state notification to the PDESTM 116 indicating that the power state of the UFP device 104 is externally powered, and the PDESTM 116 responds with an acknowledgement.

Again, now that the PDESTM 116 is aware of the power state of the UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106, it can determine how the extension system should be presented to the host device 102. Because both the power state notifications indicated that the UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106 are both externally powered, the PDESTM 116 can determine that the extension system should be presented to the host as externally powered. Accordingly, at point 3, the PDESTM 116 transmits an instruction to the UFP device 104 to cause the UFP device 104 to report to the host device 102 that it is externally powered, and at point 4, the UFP device 104 transmits a notification to the host device 102 indicating that it is externally powered. This notification to the host device 102 may be in the form of a USB power delivery capabilities message with the externally powered bit set, or may be in any other suitable format. The host device 102 may transmit an acknowledgement back to the UFP device 104, and the UFP device 104 may transmit an acknowledgement back to the PDESTM 116. As described above, the report may indicate that the extension system is externally powered if it is exposed to the host device 102 as a USB hub, or it may indicate that the USB device 108 is externally powered if the extension system is transparent to the host device 102.

By reporting as externally powered when both the UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106 are externally powered, the extension system can provide the full functionality of USB Power Delivery throughout the entire power topology, despite the presence of the non-USB compliant extension medium between the UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106. For example, at point 5, the USB device 108 may be attached to the DFP device 106, a device attach event may be generated and transmitted to the DFP device 106, or some other event may occur by which the DFP device 106 is informed that a USB power delivery capable USB device 108 is now connected. At point 6, the DFP device 106 transmits a notification to the PDESTM 116 to report the attachment of the USB device 108. The PDESTM 116 may respond to the report with an acknowledgement, and the DFP device 106 may respond to the device attachment with an acknowledgement.

The PDESTM 116 determines that because both the UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106 are externally powered, the attachment of the USB device 108 may be reported to the host device 102. Accordingly, at point 7, the PDESTM 116 transmits an instruction to the UFP device 104 to report the

change in the power delivery topology to the host device **102**, and at point **8**, the UFP device **104** reports the change to the host device **102** using any suitable technique, such as a USB power delivery change notification and/or the like. The host device **102** may acknowledge the report to the UFP device **104**, and the UFP device **104** may acknowledge the instruction to the PDESTM **116**.

A further sequence that follows the sequence illustrated in FIG. **8A** is illustrated in FIG. **8B**. At point **1** in FIG. **8B** (which follows point **8** in FIG. **8A**), the USB device **108** transmits a request to the DFP device **106** for more power than is currently being drawn by the USB device **108**. At point **2**, the DFP device **106** informs the PDESTM **116** that the USB device **108** has requested more power. The PDESTM **116**, similar to a system policy manager as described in the USB Power Delivery specifications, determines if the extension system can provide the requested power, as well as where the requested power should be sourced from. In some embodiments, the PDESTM **116** may determine that the DFP device **106** is capable of servicing the request for additional power by itself, and may instruct the DFP device **106** to provide the requested power from its current power source.

However, in some embodiments, the PDESTM **116** may determine that the external power source used by the DFP device **106** cannot provide enough power to service the request for additional power, and so may attempt to find another source for the additional power. In the illustrated sequence of FIG. **8B**, the PDESTM **116** has determined that power transmission over the extension medium **120** is possible, that the UFP device **104** has adequate power reserves to provide the additional power to the USB device **108**, and that the extension medium **120** is capable of carrying the additional power (while possibly also compensating for any power loss over the extension medium **120**). After making this determination, at point **3**, the PDESTM **116** transmits an instruction to the UFP device **104** to send power over the extension medium **120**, and the UFP device **104** acknowledges the instruction. In some embodiments, the UFP device **104** may begin transmitting the power at this point, while in other embodiments, the UFP device **104** may merely inform its power-over-link engine **204** or upstream PDEDPM **220** that a request for power received from the DFP device **106** via the extension medium should be honored.

At point **4**, the PDESTM **116** transmits an instruction to the DFP device **106** to draw power from the extension medium **120**. Upon receiving this instruction, the DFP device **106** may begin drawing power provided by the UFP device **104** from the extension medium **120**, as discussed in further detail above. Once the DFP device **106** is drawing the necessary power to service the power request, at point **5**, the DFP device **106** sends an acknowledgement to the USB device **108** to approve the power request. Subsequently, the USB device **108** may begin to draw the additional power from the DFP device **106**. In some embodiments, the DFP device **106** may send one or more Wait messages to the USB device **108** between points **1** and **5**, or use other techniques to allow time for processing of the power request.

At point **6**, the PDESTM **116** instructs the UFP device **104** to report the change in the power topology to the host device **102**, and at point **7**, the UFP device **104** transmits a change notification to the host device **102**. The host device **102** may acknowledge the change notification, and the UFP device **104** may acknowledge the instruction. In this way, the system policy manager on the host device **102** may have a complete view of the power topology, just as if the USB

device **108** were coupled directly to the host device **102** or coupled to the host device **102** via one or more USB-compliant hubs, instead of via a non-USB-compliant extension medium **120**.

FIGS. **9A**, **9B**, and **9C** illustrate communications within a system wherein the DFP device **106** is drawing power from the extension medium **120** and the UFP device **104** is also drawing power from the extension medium **120**. Because neither the UFP device **104** nor the DFP device **106** is drawing power from an external power source, it can be assumed that neither device has access to an external power source in this scenario. It can also be assumed that there is an independent source of power on the extension medium **120**, such as a PoE-enabled switch, one or more PoE injectors, and/or the like, that can independently provide power to both the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106**, as opposed to the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** powering each other over the extension medium **120**. This is different from being externally powered by an external power source, because the PDESTM **116** may need to compensate for limitations in the capabilities of the extension medium **120**, and/or limitations in the power available from the independent source of power. That is, it can be assumed by the PDESTM **116** that any number of externally powered devices can simultaneously draw their maximum supported power. However, for link-powered devices, the PDESTM **116** may have to take power delivery capabilities of the link power source into account, and may not be able to concurrently provide maximum supported power to all connected devices.

At point **1**, the DFP device **106** transmits a first power state notification to the PDESTM **116** indicating that the power state of the DFP device **106** is link powered, and the PDESTM **116** responds with an acknowledgement. At point **2**, the UFP device **104** transmits a second power state notification to the PDESTM **116** indicating that the power state of the UFP device **104** is link powered, and the PDESTM **116** responds with an acknowledgement.

Again, now that the PDESTM **116** is aware of the power state of the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106**, it can determine how the extension system should be presented to the host device **102**. Because both the power state notifications indicated that the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** are link powered, the PDESTM **116** can determine that the extension system should be presented to the host device **102** as externally powered. Even though neither of the UFP device **104** and the DFP device **106** are actually powered by an external power source, the externally powered bit may be presented to the host device **102** because the extension system does not require bus power from the host device **102** to always be available.

Accordingly, at point **3**, the PDESTM **116** transmits an instruction to the UFP device **104** to cause the UFP device **104** to report to the host device **102** that it is externally powered, and at point **4**, the UFP device **104** transmits a notification to the host device **102** indicating that it is externally powered. As above, this notification to the host device **102** may be in the form of a USB power delivery capabilities message with the externally powered bit set, or may be in any other suitable format. The host device **102** may transmit an acknowledgement back to the UFP device **104**, and the UFP device **104** may transmit an acknowledgement back to the PDESTM **116**. As above, the report may indicate to the host device **102** that the extension system is externally powered if it is exposed to the host device **102** as

a USB hub, or it may indicate to the host device 102 that the USB device 108 is externally powered if the extension system is transparent.

By configuring to report as externally powered when both UFP device 104 and DFP device 106 are link powered, you can obtain full functionality of USB power delivery throughout the entire topology, despite the presence of the non-USB compliant extension medium 120, and despite the fact that neither the UFP device 104 nor the DFP device 106 are receiving unlimited external power. For example, at point 5, the USB device 108 may be attached to the DFP device 106, a device attach event may be generated, and the device attach event may be transmitted to the DFP device 106, or some other event may occur by which the DFP device 106 is informed that a USB power delivery capable USB device 108 is now connected. At point 6, the DFP device 106 transmits a notification to the PDESTM 116 to report the attachment of the USB device 108. The PDESTM 116 may respond to the report with an acknowledgement, and the DFP device 106 may respond to the device attachment with an acknowledgement.

The PDESTM 116 determines that because both the UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106 are link powered, the attachment of the USB device 108 may be reported to the host device 102. Accordingly, at point 7, the PDESTM 116 transmits an instruction to the UFP device 104 to report the change in the power delivery topology to the host device 102, and at point 8, the UFP device 104 reports the change to the host device 102 using any suitable technique, such as a USB power delivery change notification and/or the like. The host device 102 may acknowledge the report to the UFP device 104, and the UFP device 104 may acknowledge the instruction to the PDESTM 116.

FIG. 9B illustrates a sequence that follows the sequence illustrated in FIG. 9A, wherein the USB device 108 requests more power than is available to the DFP device 106 via the extension medium 120. At point 1 (which follows point 8 of FIG. 9A), the USB device 108 transmits a request to the DFP device 106 for more power than is currently being provided to the USB device 108. At point 2, the DFP device 106 transmits a request for more power to the PDESTM 116. The PDESTM 116 determines whether the request can be fulfilled by the extension system, based on one or more of the present power being supplied to the DFP device 106, the present power being provided on the extension medium 120 throughout the entire network along with a maximum amount of power that can be provided throughout the entire network, a maximum amount of power that can be provided to a single device via the extension medium 120, the capabilities of the DFP device 106 itself, the power needs of any other devices already being supplied power by the DFP device 106, and/or any other suitable information. In the illustrated case, the PDESTM 116 determines that not enough additional power can be provided to the DFP device 106 via the extension medium 120 in order to service the power request, and so the PDESTM 116 transmits a rejection to the DFP device 106. The DFP device 106, in turn, transmits a rejection of the power request to the USB device 108. In other embodiments, the PDESTM 116 may determine that the extension medium 120 is capable of providing enough additional power to the DFP device 106 to service the request, and so may instead acknowledge the request. As illustrated, the PDESTM 116 does not cause a notification of the failed request to be transmitted to the host device 102, though in some embodiments, the PDESTM 116 may do so.

FIG. 9C illustrates another sequence that follows the sequence illustrated in FIG. 9A, wherein the host device 108

requests more power from the UFP device 104. In this sequence, the requested amount of power is available to the UFP device 104 via the extension medium 120. At point 1 (which follows point 8 of FIG. 9A), the host device 102 transmits a request to the UFP device 104 for more power than is currently being provided to the host device 102. At point 2, the UFP device 104 transmits a request for more power to the PDESTM 116. The PDESTM 116 determines whether the request can be fulfilled by the extension system, based on one or more of the present power being supplied to the UFP device 104, the present power being provided on the extension medium 120 throughout the entire network along with a maximum amount of power that can be provided throughout the entire network, a maximum amount of power that can be provided to a single device via the extension medium 120, the capabilities of the UFP device 106 itself, the power needs of any other devices already being supplied power by the UFP device 104, and/or any other suitable information. In the illustrated case, the PDESTM 116 determines that the additional power requested can be provided to the UFP device 104 via the extension medium 120 in order to service the power request, and so the PDESTM 116 transmits an acknowledgement to the UFP device 104. The UFP device 104, in turn, transmits an acknowledgement to the host device 102. Subsequently, the UFP device 104 may begin to draw the additional power required from the extension medium 120, and the host device 102 may begin to draw the requested additional power from the UFP device 104. The host device 102 may also inform its own system policy manager of the change, once the acknowledgement is received. In other embodiments, the PDESTM 116 may determine that the power request cannot be serviced, and so may reject the request as illustrated in FIG. 9B.

In some embodiments, additional power delivery topology changes and functionality may be available. For example, a power request for a USB device 108 may be granted instead of being denied when both the UFP device 104 and the DFP device 106 are link powered, unlike the sequence illustrated in FIG. 9B. As another example, devices may swap roles between Producer/Consumer and Consumer/Producer as described in the USB Power Delivery specifications, based on whether the PDESTM 116 allows the externally powered bit to be set. In such an embodiment, when the externally powered bit is sent to host device 102, the host device 102 and UFP device 104 may swap roles as power delivery source (Producer/Consumer) and power delivery sink (Consumer/Producer). As still another example, when the externally powered bit is sent to USB device 108, the USB device 108 and the DFP device 106 may swap roles as power source and power sink, even in the situation illustrated in FIG. 7.

In the discussion above, various components (such as the power delivery extension system topology manager, the USB extension engines, the power-over-link engines, and the power delivery extension device policy managers) are described as “managers” or “engines.” In general, the terms “engine” and “manager” as used herein refer to logic embodied in hardware or software instructions and executed by hardware devices. The logic can include computer-executable instructions written in a programming language, such as C, C++, COBOL, JAVA™, PHP, Perl, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, VBScript, ASPX, Microsoft .NET™ languages such as C#, and/or the like. An engine or manager may be compiled into executable programs or written in interpreted programming languages. Engines and managers may be callable from other engines or managers, or from themselves. Generally, the engines and managers described

21

herein refer to modules that can be merged with other engines or managers, or can be divided into sub-engines or sub-managers. Software instructions that help provide an engine or manager can be stored in any type of computer readable medium or computer storage device and be stored on and executed by one or more general purpose computing devices, thus creating a special purpose computing device configured to provide the engine or manager. In some embodiments, one or more of the engines or managers described herein may be implemented within a logic device such as a PLD, an ASIC, a FPGA, and/or the like. In some embodiments, one or more of the engines or managers described herein may be implemented using a dedicated digital hardware device implemented, for example, as a state machine configured to perform the actions described herein; within an application specific processor; and/or within any other suitable computing device.

While illustrative embodiments have been illustrated and described, it will be appreciated that various changes can be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A system for providing Universal Serial Bus (USB) power delivery across a non-USB extension medium, the system comprising:

- an upstream facing port device (UFP device), including:
 - at least one USB upstream facing port configured to be communicatively coupled to a USB host device; and
 - an extension medium interface configured to be coupled to the non-USB extension medium;
- a downstream facing port device (DFP device), including:
 - at least one USB downstream facing port configured to be communicatively coupled to a USB device; and
 - an extension medium interface configured to be coupled to the non-USB extension medium;
- a non-USB extension medium that communicatively couples the UFP device and the DFP device; and
- a power delivery extension system topology manager (PDESTM) communicatively coupled to at least one of the UFP device and the DFP device via the non-USB extension medium and configured to block or cause altered USB Power Delivery messages to be sent to a system policy manager on the USB host device to manage power delivery policies implemented by the UFP device and the DFP device in view of power delivery capabilities available via the non-USB extension medium.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the PDESTM is a component of the UFP device or the DFP device.

3. The system of claim 1, further comprising a management computing device separate from the UFP device and DFP device, wherein the PDESTM is a component of the management computing device;

wherein the UFP device is part of a plurality of UFP devices communicatively coupled to the non-USB extension medium;

wherein the DFP device is part of a plurality of DFP devices communicatively coupled to the non-USB extension medium;

and

wherein the management computing device is configured to provide power to one or more USB extension devices via the non-USB extension medium.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the DFP device further includes a downstream power delivery extension device policy manager (PDEDPM) configured to:

22

request power delivery policies from the PDESTM; control local policy engines associated with the one or more downstream facing ports based on the power delivery policies; and report changes reported by the local policy engines to the PDESTM.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the UFP device further includes an upstream power delivery extension device policy manager (PDEDPM) configured to:

request power delivery policies from the PDESTM; control local policy engines associated with the one or more upstream facing ports based on the power delivery policies; and report changes as instructed by the PDESTM to a system policy manager.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the UFP device and the DFP device includes a power-over-link engine configured to send power to and receive power from the non-USB extension medium.

7. A computer-implemented method performed by a power delivery extension system topology manager (PDESTM) of a USB extension system, the USB extension system comprising an upstream facing port device (UFP device) and a downstream facing port device (DFP device) connected by a non-USB compliant extension medium, the method comprising:

- receiving, by the PDESTM, a first power state notification from the UFP device;
- receiving, by the PDESTM, a second power state notification from the DFP device; and
- sending, by the PDESTM, an instruction to the UFP device to report a power state to a system policy manager, wherein the reported power state is based on the first power state notification and the second power state notification; wherein the instruction blocks or causes altered USB Power Delivery messages to be sent to the system policy manager in view of power delivery capabilities available via the non-USB compliant extension medium; and wherein at least one of the first power state notification and the second power state notification is received by the PDESTM via the non-USB compliant extension medium.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the instruction causes the UFP device to report a bus-powered state to the system policy manager when the first power state notification indicates that the UFP device is bus powered and the second power state notification indicates that the DFP device is externally powered.

9. The method of claim 7, further comprising: receiving a request for power from the DFP device in response to a power request received by the DFP device from a USB device; sending an instruction to the DFP device to provide the requested power to the USB device; and withholding reporting to both the UFP device and the system policy manager of a change in the power topology.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein the instruction causes the UFP device to report an externally powered state to the system policy manager when the first power state notification indicates that the UFP device is externally powered and the second power state notification indicates that the DFP device is externally powered.

23

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising:
receiving a notification from the DFP device indicating
attachment of a USB device; and
sending an instruction to the UFP device to inform the
system policy manager of the attachment of the USB
device. 5

12. The method of claim 10, further comprising:
receiving a request for power from the DFP device in
response to a power request received by the DFP device
from a USB device, wherein the request for power 10
includes a power amount that is greater than a power
amount drawn by the DFP device at the time of the
request;
sending an instruction to the UFP device to send power to
the non-USB extension medium; and 15
sending an instruction to the DFP device to draw power
from the non-USB extension medium to provide the
requested power to the USB device.

13. The method of claim 7, wherein the instruction causes
the UFP device to report an externally powered state to the 20
system policy manager if the first power state notification
indicates that the UFP device is link powered and the second
power state notification indicates that the DFP device is link
powered.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising: 25
receiving a notification from the DFP device indicating
attachment of a USB device;
sending an instruction to the UFP device to inform the
system policy manager of the attachment of the USB
device; 30
receiving a request for power from the DFP device in
response to a power request received by the DFP device
from a USB device, wherein the request for power
includes a power amount that is greater than a power
amount drawn by the DFP device at the time of the 35
request; and
in response to determining that the DFP device is request-
ing more power than is available from a power source
via the non-USB extension medium, transmitting a 40
notification to the DFP device that the request for
power is rejected.

15. A USB extension device, comprising:
at least one USB upstream facing port or at least one USB
downstream facing port;
an extension medium interface configured to be coupled 45
to a non-USB extension medium;
a power-over-link engine; and
a power delivery extension device policy manager con-
figured to:

24

determine whether power is available from an external
power source;

in response to determining that power is not available
from the external power source, determine whether
power is available from the non-USB extension
medium;

in response to determining that power is available from
the non-USB extension medium, draw power for the
USB extension device from the non-USB extension
medium via the power-over-link engine;

transmit a message via the non-USB extension medium
to a power delivery extension system topology man-
ager (PDESTM) that includes power source infor-
mation; and

receive a command from the PDESTM that blocks the
USB extension device from sending USB Power
Delivery messages to a system policy manager on a
USB host device or alters USB Power Delivery
messages sent by the USB extension device to the
system policy manager on the USB host device in
view of power delivery capabilities available via the
non-USB extension medium.

16. The USB extension device of claim 15, wherein the
power delivery extension device policy manager is further
configured to:

in response to determining that power is available from
the external power source, draw power for the USB
extension device from the external power source.

17. The USB extension device of claim 15, wherein the
power delivery extension device policy manager is further
configured to:

in response to determining that power is not available
from the external power source and is not available
from the non-USB extension medium, draw power for
the USB extension device from the at least one USB
upstream facing port or the at least one USB down-
stream facing port.

18. The USB extension device of claim 15, further com-
prising a battery, and wherein the power delivery extension
device policy manager is further configured to:

in response to determining that power is not available
from the external power source and is not available
from the non-USB extension medium, draw power for
the USB extension device from the battery.

19. The USB extension device of claim 15, wherein the
message further includes capability information of the non-
USB extension medium.

* * * * *